

# The Middlebury Campus

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Since 1905

## Santigold chosen for '09 show

By Tamara Hilmes  
NEWS EDITOR

The Middlebury College Activities Board (MCAB) announced that Santigold will perform at the College in April. In place of what has traditionally been the "big" spring concert, MCAB decided this year to split the funding between a number of smaller performances throughout the year, rather than tying up their entire budget in bringing a "big name" to campus. A total of 10 concerts were budgeted for this spring, which included acts that have already passed, like RJD2, as well as WRMC 91.1 FM's Sepom-ena.

"In previous years, we have had a large show, and though this won't be quite that scale, it will be a national touring act and a substantial name," said Director of Campus Activities and Leadership (CCAL) and MCAB faculty advisor Doug Adams.

That national act, it has recently been confirmed, will be Santigold, a punk indie-pop artist from Philadelphia, who has toured with



Courtesy

Santigold, formerly Santogold, has been compared to the likes of M.I.A.

the likes of Coldplay, Bjork, Kanye West and the Beastie Boys. The female artist, who has been compared to likes of the Yeah Yeah Yeahs and M.I.A. in terms of musical style, signed a contract with the College earlier this week.

"Our first choice was Matisyahu," said Head of the Concerts Committee Hank Rosen '09. Rosen

explained that they were unable to secure the Jewish artist who meshes reggae and hip-hop sounds after learning that the performance date would conflict with his upcoming CD release.

"Our next option was Passover," Rosen said, though he did not think the agent was aware of

SEE ARTS, PAGE 18

## MPD announces close of Garza case

By Kelly Janis  
NEWS EDITOR

On March 12, the Middlebury Police Department (MPD) released its final report on the death of Nicholas Garza, a first-year student who disappeared from the College last February, and whose body was found in Otter Creek nearly four months later. According to the report, Garza consumed at least 18 shots of liquor the night he died, and there is no evidence of foul play in his death.

"His body was pristine," said Chief of Police Thomas Hanley. "There were no indications of any trauma."

The 30-page summary of the case — which is publically accessible on the MPD's Web site and refers to interviewed students by name — has drawn a number of critical reactions.

"I am not sure why so much detail was included in the report,"

said Acting Provost Tim Spears.

"That is Vermont law," Hanley said. "This is public information. These are adults, and we cannot redact their names. Period; the end."

The report also details a Vermont Civil Violation Complaint for Consumption of Alcohol by a Minor and a Vermont Municipal Complaint for Public Urination Garza received in December of 2007, as well as an anecdotal incident in which Garza wandered through Marbleworks in an effort to reach the German House while intoxicated. In addition, investigators provide an estimated range of Garza's blood alcohol content at the time of his death (.240 to .330 percent, or three to four times the legal driving limit), despite the fact that the body's immersion in water and subsequent decomposition made the toxicology report inconclusive.

The police did not meet with Garza's family prior to making the report public.

"Of course we can't meet with them," Hanley said. "They're too far away. We're not going to fly to New Mexico on this. There's no requirement to do that."

The MPD did send a copy of the report to the Garza family by certified mail on Feb. 27. Hanley tracked the parcel and said the intended recipients received two delivery notices, but never picked up

SEE FEWER, PAGE 5

SEE REPORT, PAGE 4

## "Doctor Proctor" to retire

By Cloe Sasha  
STAFF WRITER

Dining Room Servery Worker Stephen Draper, affectionately known as "Doctor Proctor" by many students, is retiring this April after 20 years at the College.

Draper worked in Proctor Dining Hall for most of his 20 years at Middlebury and this year moved to the Freeman International Center Dining Hall (FIC).

"I'm retiring this April 2009," Draper said in an interview at a booth in the FIC lounge. "I signed all the papers a few weeks ago. Things have changed a lot since I started working here in March of 1989."

Chief Financial Officer Patrick Norton explained some of the details behind the early retirement program, through which Draper is retiring this spring.

"The purpose of this program is to give staff additional flexibility in planning their retirements while at the same time achieving necessary staff position reductions through voluntary means to prevent or minimize the need for future involun-

SEE LONG-TIME, PAGE 4

## Nearly half of '13 admitted ED

By Catherine Ahearn  
STAFF WRITER

Changes in the application protocol and a six-percent decline in prospective students' campus visits have led to a smaller applicant pool for the Class of 2013, whose members will receive their decision letters on March 27. However, 45 percent of the incoming class has already been admitted early decision.

"If anything, this year's applicant pool was even stronger than we have seen in the past," said Dean of Admissions Bob Clagett. "Based on SAT scores and the academic and other ratings that we use in

the office, this was the strongest pool that we have ever had at Middlebury."

Applicants came from all over the country and the world; however the applicant pool was slightly smaller than in recent years. Clagett attributed this variance to a change in the application process, now requiring that the application fee be paid upon submission of an application.

In the past, students were able to submit an application and pay the fee at a later time. This resulted in a relatively large number of students who sent in an incomplete application and therefore never

received a decision. This year, every application that was processed by the admissions office was complete.

"The bottom line to keep in mind," Clagett clarifies, "is that we are sending out about as many decisions this year as we did last year,

## IHC keeps close watch on Prescott

By Garrett Reynolds  
STAFF WRITER

The Inter-House Council (IHC) is a student-only organization responsible, among other things, for keeping the social houses and super blocks in line. The IHC has historically been composed of the president and vice-president from each of five social houses: Alpha Delta Phi (ADP), Alpha Omega (Tavern), Kappa Delta Rho (KDR), The Mill and Xenia. This academic

year, it added two members, each representing one of the two "super block" houses: Palmer and Brooker. The IHC has been most visible determining punishments for ADP and The Mill for infractions during the past few years.

Meetings for the IHC take place every Monday, during which time the 12 members discuss any issues that may have arisen in the previous week. When there is an incident that potentially necessitates discipline, the council is presented with reports from the Center for Campus Activities and Leadership (CCAL), which include information from various sources such as Public Safety and Facilities Services. They then deliberate on an appropriate recourse and make a recommendation to the administration.

SEE STUDENTS, PAGE 2

**This article is the second in a three-part series on the role of committees in College governance. Next week's focus is on the Faculty Committee.**



Grace Duggan, Photo Editor

### STUDENTS REMEMBER IRAQ WAR ANNIVERSARY

3,761 flags were scattered along Storrs Walk on Monday in remembrance of the 4,257 U.S. soldiers that have died in Iraq in the past six years, as well as all of the Iraqis, international soldiers and contractors.

this week



**Shoreham exposed**  
Local business employees strip down to raise money for local library, page 7.



**Headlock-ers making headway**  
Students work to install wrestling club at Midd, page 13.

**Doing WHAT to pigs and cockroaches?!**  
Production spells out message in multiple scenes, page 17.





## Middbrief

### Quidditch nets accolades

by Jaime Fuller, News Editor

On March 5, the Middlebury College Quidditch Club was an honorable mention at the annual *PR Week Awards* in the category of promotional event of the year. Last year's spring break quidditch tour came in second behind Fleishman-Hillard and Papa John's International's "A Pie in the Sky" campaign.

The award ceremony, sponsored by *PR Week*, a prominent public relations publication based in New York City, featured 850 entries from national and international public relations agencies. The Quidditch Club bested national corporations including Nestlé USA, Target Stores and KFC to take second place in its category. Alex Benepe '09, his father Adrian Benepe '78 and Vice President for Communications Michael McKenna attended the awards dinner in New York to accept the prize.

Benepe, an art history major, was responsible for organizing both the trip that was recognized at the event and the Intercollegiate World Cup held at Middlebury last fall. The World Cup was held, in part, to celebrate the club's success at recruiting other colleges to join in the down-to-earth version of the magical sport. The recruiting venture last spring was an eight-day road trip that was covered by CBS' *The Early Show*, ESPN, MTV, *The Boston Globe*, Gawker and other media outlets. And perhaps the most alluring aspect of the trip for those in public relations is that it inspired 119 new teams to register, taking the nationwide quidditch team tally from 60 to 179. A judge for the *PR Week* awards applauded the group's "brilliance in leveraging mainstream media from an unexpected source."

Praise for the quidditch team also came



Courtesy

from within the College community. President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz offered his own congratulations to the award-winning club.

"Congratulations to Alex and all the members of this group for their achievement," said Liebowitz. "This story is a great example of the kind of creativity and innovation we have come to expect from our students."

McKenna offered his own accolades in a press release published on the College Web site.

"It's virtually unheard of for a student group to be represented at this level in the PR industry," he wrote. "Alex recognized early on that this new sport would live or die by its promotion. The club has done a terrific job with new media such as Facebook and YouTube, as well as traditional major media outlets like newspapers and network television. It's been a great story to share with the Middlebury community."

Benepe, who applied for a CRA position for the 2009-2010 year so he can continue spreading enthusiasm for his hybrid sport, thinks the award is not only an accomplishment for him, but for everyone at Middlebury excited about quidditch.

"It's amazing that a bunch of students put this together and won this award," Benepe said.

## Monterey does not run on endowment

By Tim O'Grady

STAFF WRITER

Although the College has been faced with a plethora of financial challenges in the past few months, the Monterey Institute of International Studies (MIIS) appears to be thriving with a growing enrollment and a budget greatly unaffected by the recession — unlike Middlebury — which has suffered an endowment decline of at least 20 percent since July.

The College relies on three main sources to generate revenue: its endowment, charitable gifts and the annual comprehensive fee. The school's endowment, which ensures the College's financial stability and is used to plan long-term projects, has suffered due to the economic crisis.

But though the College relies on its endowment for approximately 24 percent of its budget, MIIS is not dependent on its endowment as a major source of revenue. According to Chief Financial Officer Patrick Norton, only two percent of the Institute's budget is supported by its endowment.

MIIS is supported financially by its student count and annual tuition. The student enrollment at MIIS is at an all-time high this year and the institute is anticipating an even bigger enrollment next year. The burgeoning popularity of MIIS and the fact that the institution is not endowment-dependent has prevented the school from having to make budget cuts.

Although MIIS has been affiliated with the College since 2005, the two institutions are not connected financially.

"The College and the Institute are two separate legal entities. [MIIS has] its own governance structure, own budget and [is] responsible for

settling its own liabilities," Norton wrote in an e-mail.

Nevertheless, Middlebury's affiliation with MIIS has influenced the College's financial status indirectly. Many donors have pledged more money to the College after the partnership because they believe strongly in the mission of MIIS and want the affiliation to thrive well into the future. MIIS, however, does not plan to directly aid the College during these tough economic times.

"The Monterey Institute has been actively rebuilding its finances after years of deteriorating financial health — and it would be financially difficult for the Institute to donate money to Middlebury," said Norton.

By June 2010, Middlebury and MIIS plan to become academically and administratively integrated. In an interview featured in the Winter 2009 edition of *The Middlebury Magazine*, Norton said that although the integration is going according to plan, some aspects of the integration may be slowed down because of the recession.

Nevertheless, the integration has taken one major step forward in the recent decision to expand Executive Vice President Bob Huth's role with MIIS. Huth will be responsible for steering the financial operations so that the integration can be as smooth as possible. Norton said this appointment was in no way prompted by the financial challenge.

"Mr. Huth has been involved in the Middlebury-Monterey affiliation since it began," Norton wrote, "and his work with colleagues at Monterey will represent the best way to ensure the smoothest transition possible for both Monterey and Middlebury."

## Students regulate social houses

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The decisions coming from the student-run council are generally respected by the administration, according to Director of CCAL Doug Adams.

"For the most part, we usually accept the IHC sanctions," said Adams. "Over the years that I've done this, they've been very well thought out."

And in the past few years, the IHC has had the chance to prove its resolve dealing with a number of incidents.

During the 2005-2006 academic year, the IHC was tasked with responding to the nearly \$1,400 of damage to ADP's Prescott House and the multiple violations of College policy that occurred there.

After learning of their violation of a rule stipulating that pledge events be substance-free, the IHC initially put ADP on probation for Winter Term. After further violations and two cases of sexual assault that allegedly took place in Prescott House, the administration evicted ADP from their residence and put the organization on probation for the 2006-2007 academic year.

ADP continued without a residence for two years, but regained its residential privileges this year. The full reinstatement of the social house happened under the leadership of recent graduate Chris Angelini '08.5, who served as the organization's president and member of the IHC. According to Angelini, the experience that ADP went through "served as a big learning experience and wake-up call to both the IHC and to the Delta organization."

In close consultation with the IHC, the members of ADP demonstrated the change their organization had undergone.

"We rewrote our constitution, reworked our leadership structure, our goals and our mission statement," Angelini said. "We're essentially a new organization."

In cases like that of ADP, the student-run nature of the IHC is an advantage, according to former president of The Mill and IHC member Ernest Russell '09.

"We have a better understanding of student life than an administrator would," said

Russell. "We know each other's houses and have a feel for their memberships."

The student-run committee has one peculiar practice regarding their deliberations. The 12 members of the board are never required to recuse themselves from voting, even when the council is dealing with issues that may be connected to certain members. However, members are asked to leave for deliberations of issues concerning their respective social houses. This may seem to present a conflict of interest, but Russell sees this as a non-issue.

"You would be surprised," said Russell. "The members are willing to punish themselves to maintain the credibility of the IHC."

Blake Johnson '10, president of both KDR and the IHC, agrees that the lack of recusal is not a problem. He points out that, if an issue were to occur in which he was deemed to have a conflict of interest, he would pass on his role of moderator to IHC Vice President Alison Mehravari '10.

The IHC is considered a credible arbiter of social house conflicts because of its willingness to make serious recommendations to the administration.

Russell points out that "if we're too lax, we'll lose our authority, too harsh and we become the administration. We act as a buffer."

But this buffer does not always act as one would expect it to. Adams explained how the recommendations of the IHC look to the administration.

"They have a set of rules that are estab-

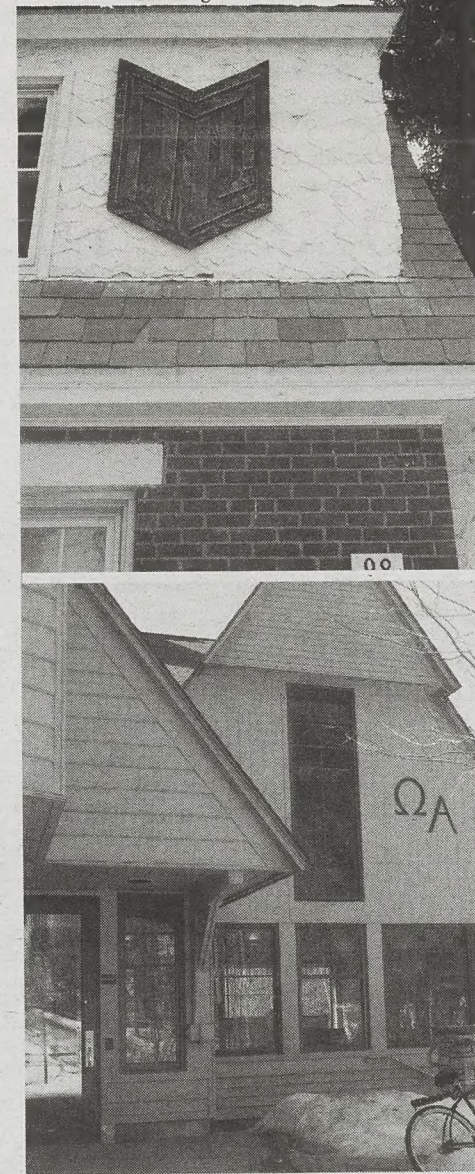
lished," said Adams. "They have some latitude within those rules and there are times where a sanction might be more severe or less severe than the administration might have recommended. We don't actually change the recommendation; we don't tell them what to change it to."

Another notable incident involving social houses was the fire in The Mill in December 2007. A fire broke out due to unknown causes, a situation which may have been exacerbated by members tampering with smoke detectors. The IHC recommended punishing the organization by evicting it from its residence. The administration ended up hearing appeals from members of The Mill and agreed to mitigate the decision, given that The Mill was willing to eliminate the leadership and have all the members move out of the house, filling these positions with other members.

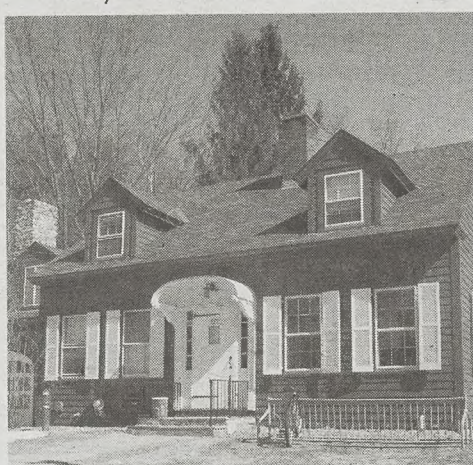
Despite all the attention-grabbing events of the past few years in which the IHC has been involved, the council has another side to it, playing a proactive role in the community. Johnson explains that it was "mostly set up as a disciplinary thing, but it's not limited to that."

The IHC sponsored the Beaux-Arts Ball, a fundraising event for the Warmth program, which took place in the Kevin P. Mahaney '84 Center for the Arts. The Mill, Tavern and KDR organized the event, which promoted the IHC's goal of fostering stronger ties among the social houses.

File Photo/Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor



Grace Duggan, Photo Editor





# CSO attempts to ease seniors' job anxieties

By Simran Bhalla  
STAFF WRITER

Despite the flailing job market, the Career Services Office (CSO) has been working hard to make sure opportunities exist for the Class of 2009, venturing away from the previously advocated financial careers to offer options more lucrative in an economy where the current unemployment rate is 8.1 percent.

Whereas in recent years, Middlebury graduates — especially economics majors — could rely on firms like Lehman Brothers (whose ex-CEO, Richard Fuld, is a College trustee) to recruit from the College, this route is no longer an option for most students. Several investment banks and financial firms such as Goldman Sachs and Deutsche Bank are not hiring undergraduates any more, and certainly not at the high starting salaries they once offered. Others, such as Lehman itself, have gone under.

"Certain sectors like finance and consulting, which were popular Midd destinations, have fallen off dramatically," said Senior Associate Director of Career Services Don Kjelleren.

Nonetheless, certain students have still been able to find lucrative jobs. Akshay Khanna '09 will be working as a financial analyst for the firm Audax Group after graduation. It is one of very few equity firms that hire recent graduates.

"I was really surprised at how well they pay, especially for an undergraduate," said Khanna.

Like many students, he decided to try to get a job right after graduation because "I'm broke and didn't want to go to grad school right after college ... and I was rejected from the [Commons Residential Advisor] CRA job."

Jobs outside the finance market are easi-

er to come by, and in some sectors — specifically non-profits and government — demand has risen.

"Law, government, healthcare, education and energy jobs have all been holding their own or actually on the rise, said Kjelleren. Teach for America may have its biggest recruiting year ever at Middlebury."

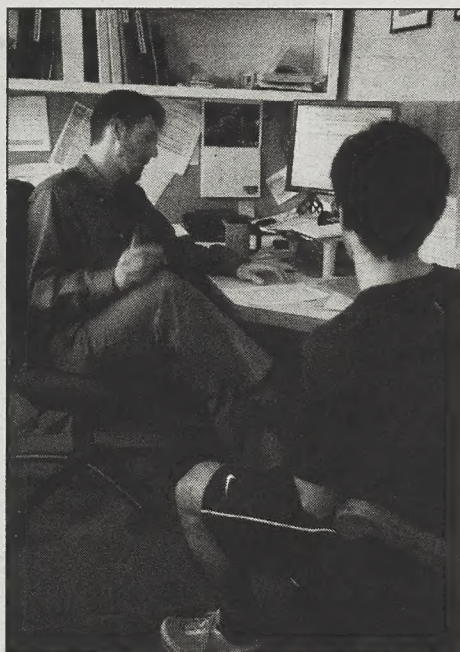
Several students are opting to take the path that Mairead Harris '09 has taken. The dual Spanish-Chinese major is planning to go to China and teach English, or work for an NGO and "use all the money I save from living off fried rice to pay back some loans."

CSO has made a huge effort to increase recruiting on campus and bring more job options to students in anticipation of a tougher market. In addition to Senior Spotlight — a newsletter that supplies career advice — the CSO regularly conducts job fairs, seminars and workshops. There are two coming up on April 1: a "Life Skills For After Graduation" alumni panel and a "How To Get Into Graduate School" workshop. The College also has a student ambassador from the Partnership for Public Service on campus, Matt Joseph '09, to promote jobs and internships in the federal government.

CSO has also managed to expand MOJO, the College's online job and internship listing.

"We have 21 brand new employers this spring accepting applications through our online recruiting system," said Kjelleren.

These include training track positions at companies like PepsiCo and Procter & Gamble that usually go to MBA graduates, as well as new openings with The Brookings Institution, Radio Free Asia, American University and DC Prep, and in the public sector, Vermont Public Power Supply and the Internal Revenue Service. Kjelleren also mentioned the "hidden job market," in which he says 60 percent to 80 percent of job opportunities for recent college



Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor  
CSO staff works closely with students.

graduates are. These are jobs that do not get posted and are filled mostly through referrals. He emphasized the importance of "personalizing outreach" when applying for jobs or internships. Kjelleren's advice for students looking to get these "hidden" jobs is to build personal networks by using contacts.

In addition to the plethora of opportunities offered by CSO, students can search for jobs and internships through Web sites such as Idealist, which was founded by the non-profit Action Without Borders, where various NGOs, non-profits and organizations in fields such as journalism and education can post listings for students and recent college graduates. However, while non-profit and public service work can be lucrative career-wise and appeal to the idealist streak in liberal arts graduates, it is not an option for many students hoping to pay off student loans or pay for graduate school. There may be other options soon: President Barack Obama plans to create a Teacher Service Scholarships program that will cover a four-year undergraduate or two-year graduate program in education for students who teach in high-need areas for at least four years.

## College reduces faculty releases

By Katie Siegner  
STAFF WRITER

Throughout the process of reducing the College's budget and implementing financial cuts, it has remained a priority of the administration to avoid the elimination of faculty and staff positions and increase the efficiency of the current system. The College will ideally achieve any reduction in faculty and staff through attrition, early retirement and the proposal outlined in President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz's Jan. 29 e-mail to limit the number of faculty course releases — or permission to not teach a particular class during a particular semester — granted. The proposed plan, in addition to providing budgetary savings, would increase the number of classes available to students and potentially decrease class size.

"The Faculty Council will work with the Educational Affairs Committee to recommend to the administration how to reduce at least 35 faculty course releases," Liebowitz wrote in the e-mail that was sent out to all faculty, staff and students. "This change will add courses to the curriculum and make unnecessary the filling of seven replacement faculty positions, which will provide budgetary savings."

Course releases are granted to faculty members who are performing other administrative functions for the College, such as those serving on an elected committee or acting as department and commons heads. Currently, 80 releases are granted per year.

The College gives course releases to those colleagues who are "busy doing other things that the institution values and recognizes requires time," according to Department Chair of Geography and Atwater Commons Head Peter Nelson.

Although the course release reduction may limit the workload flexibility for members of specific departments, Nelson stressed that the administration is "thinking creatively about trying to maximize the resources we have on campus" and striving to "increase the efficiency of certain service roles." The planned decrease would also reduce the need to hire new faculty, which has been necessary in the past in order to fill the void left when multiple professors within the same department were granted releases for the same semester.

Because of this reduction in the need to hire new faculty, Dean of Faculty Susan Campbell said that the amount saved would be "the equivalent of at least \$100,000 in a given year, possibly much more." She added, "in the long run, these reclaimed courses will help us to achieve the Strategic Plan goals

**These reclaimed courses will help us to achieve the Strategic Plan goals of a lower teaching goal and the new senior work requirement.**

— Susan Campbell

of a lower teaching load and the new senior work requirement more quickly and with fewer additional faculty positions."

Despite the possible effects of the plan on professors' workloads, the effort has been largely well-received by College faculty.

"I think they're prepared to accept that," said Charles A. Dana Professor of Political Science Murray Dry in reference to the reduction in course releases. According to Dry, the faculty shares the desire of the administration to cut costs in a way that will minimize the impact on college life, even if

this means limiting the number of course releases granted for the upcoming semesters. Dry noted that he did not take a course release this year, even though it was a fairly busy one for his department due to a recruit and a faculty member up for tenure. He also mentioned that at the March 9 faculty meeting there was "a general consensus that this [limiting the number of course releases] was a reasonable thing to do."

The decision will also benefit students by increasing the number of classes available to them, because since "not all course reductions were replaced in the past, students had fewer courses available to them," said Dean Campbell.

With more classes available, Campbell also said "there will be somewhat less enrollment pressure on existing classes in the curriculum, so class sizes might be marginally smaller."

The process of course release distribution, however, is "murky," according to C. V. Starr Professor of Russian Michael Katz. It is unclear how exactly the reduction will take place because, according to Katz, "people get course releases mysteriously." As an example, he cited a colleague who managed to negotiate a permanent course release for Winter Term. "I have no idea how he got away with this," he said. With the administration looking to cut the number of course releases almost in half, Katz feels that it should "let people know how these course releases are determined."

The current plan is focused solely on reducing fall and spring course releases, as Winter Term course releases are to be reviewed separately. This issue has not yet come up in faculty meetings.

## college shorts

by Jaime Fuller, News Editor

### Public service careers more lucrative in crisis

Due to the shortfall of oft-sought occupational opportunities in this time of economic crisis, many college seniors are pursuing careers in public service. Fourteen percent of this year's senior class at Harvard University applied for Teach for America, five percent more than last year's nine percent.

"There's always that push to make money and be comfortable, but the financial crisis made me think that there's a lot more in life than going to get that corporate job," said Matthew Clair, a Harvard government major who plans to teach elementary school children in Atlanta for the next two years. "It gave me a good excuse to take some more time off to do what I'm really passionate about."

Employers across the country expect to hire 22 percent fewer graduates this year, according to a recent survey by the National Association of Colleges and Employers. In the northeast, the drop is even more pronounced, with a 39 percent decrease from last year. The drop is worst in the financial sector, which expects to have 71 percent fewer jobs to offer this year.

Harvard president Drew Faust believes that this moment provides an excellent opportunity for young graduates to get involved and make a difference.

"The path to Wall Street was so clearly defined, so if you weren't sure what direction to go, this direction was filled with signposts and rewards," said Faust. "But we are seeing two historic moments converge: this extraordinary financial crisis and this outpouring of interest in the public sphere."

— The Boston Globe

### MLA proclaims death of print as default medium

The seventh edition of the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, released on March 10, states that the Modern Language Association no longer recognizes print as the default medium, and suggests that the medium of publication should be included in each works-cited entry.

The MLA has also ceased to recommend the inclusion of URLs when citing Web-based works, because they often provide little assistance to an instructor reading papers.

"Inclusion of URLs has proved to have limited value ... for they often change, can be specific to a subscriber or a session of use and can be so long and complex that typing them into a browser is cumbersome and prone to transcription errors," states the handbook. "Readers are now more likely to find resources on the Web by searching for titles and authors' names than by typing URLs."

The latest edition of the standard style guide for language and literary study is the first to be complemented by a Web component. The password-protected Web site includes the full text of the handbook and a series of 30-plus-step narratives taking undergraduates through the process of writing a paper, using a paper on Jane Austen's "Mansfield Park" as an example.

"It's a model and it shows you what an advanced undergraduate in eight or 10 pages could ideally do," said Rosemary G. Feal, executive director of the MLA. "The point that comes out immediately is, it's not a mechanical process."

— Inside Higher Ed



## SGAupdate

by Aseem Mulji, Staff Writer

Student Government Association (SGA) President Hiba Fakhoury '09 led an agenda-less meeting on March 15. The informal format, explained Fakhoury, allowed for a "fast-paced, action-oriented" atmosphere conducive to brainstorming initiatives for the rest of the semester.

The meeting began with a discussion of the Honor Code Review Committee's controversial recommendation to allow faculty-proctored exams. Since the SGA voted down the recommendation last week, Fakhoury urged the body to come up with new creative ideas to present to the Faculty Council.

Katie Hylas '09, newly appointed chief of staff, presented some ideas, which included a verbal honor code, elected student proctors and mandatory brief discussions about the Honor Code before exams.

Some senators questioned the effectiveness of elected student proctors, citing the fact that these students must proctor and take the exam simultaneously. Fakhoury and Hylas suggested that the Center for Teaching, Learning and Research (CTLR) provide paid proctors to the faculty who request them. Senators also suggested increasing the Honor Code's visibility online and on syllabi as well as creating guidelines for proctoring, be it by faculty or students.

Fakhoury and Hylas will present all discussed ideas to the Faculty Council on March 19 with the hope of striking a compromise.

Following the Honor Code discussion, Fakhoury showed off the SGA's new blog at go/sga. She explained that it exists "so students know who the SGA is and what is going on with the SGA."

Junior Senator Chris Goodrich suggested that e-mails be sent out periodically to remind students that the blog is available. Other SGA members were concerned about clogging student mailboxes.

"We should really just keep it to one e-mail a week," Fakhoury said.

Fakhoury opened the floor to brainstorm initiatives to tackle during the rest of the semester.

Sophomore Senator Ashley Quisol suggested an end-of-year yard sale for graduating seniors. Community Council Co-Chair Antoinette Rangel '09 pointed out that an unofficial KDR yard sale already exists. A work group was established to do further research.

Hylas indicated interest in working with commons senators to create quiet study spaces around campus to be used after library hours.

First-year Senator Jonathan Kay expressed concern over dining hall lines. Work groups were established to research all three proposals.

Rangel, on behalf of Community Council member Jason Rago '09, brought to the SGA's attention the concern that club and varsity athletes receive only one of two required PE credits for graduation. Rather than create a work group, the SGA quickly wrote and passed a bill suggesting that athletes be able to fulfill two credits through participation in a club or varsity sport.

## corrections

Steve Dow is the owner of Steve's Park Diner. Last week's edition incorrectly reported Dow's last name. *The Campus* regrets the error.

## Report confirms role of alcohol

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the package.

"At some point, we can't wait for them to read this thing," Hanley said. "If they elect not to pick it up, that's out of our control. We were sitting on a report and not releasing it, which is contrary to law."

Upon reading the report online, Nick's mother, Natalie Garza, and her sister, Tanya Sierra, objected to its findings.

"The way the Middlebury police have handled this has been disgusting," Garza told the Associated Press on Friday.

"From the very beginning, the Middlebury police had the idea that it was a dumb, drunk frat boy who found a way to do damage to himself," Sierra said in the same article.

Although Hanley initially insisted in an interview with *The Campus* that there is "absolutely no reason to respond" to such criticisms, he eventually fired back.

"Why would we spend an inordinate amount of resources continually, from day one of this case right through to the end, if we already had a conclusion?" Hanley asked.

"If you look at other towns where college students have been missing, they don't pour near the resources and effort into the case that we did. This was an open, objective investigation, and that sort of criticism is unwarranted and misplaced. It's grief-driven... Our investigators work for the truth. We don't advocate for anybody. We don't sit there and work for anybody. We don't sympathize or otherwise try to engage anything subjective on this case. We work for the case, independent of what anyone else feels, and that's what we did in this case."

A similar attitude toward Natalie Garza arose when Hanley was asked what his department might have done differently if given the opportunity.



File Photo/Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor

Volunteers participate in one of the preliminary searches for Nick Garza in February 2008.

"I wish the parent would have been a little more aggressive in reporting this early on," Hanley said, although the Department of Public Safety was, in fact, made aware of Garza's absence the day after he disappeared, and incorrectly concluded that he had gone on a trip to New Hampshire with a group of acquaintances. "We got this case five days and about two feet of snow later."

In contrast with these lingering resentments, College administrators are directing their gaze to the future.

"I've been here since 1990, first as a faculty member, and then more recently as an administrator, and we've lost students," Spears said. "We've lost students to car accidents. We've lost students to illnesses. And we lost Nick to the circumstances described in the police report. I think it's important to remember these students as we move on and we learn whatever we can from these tragedies."

Prior to the release of the investigation's findings, the College never formally acknowledged the role of alcohol in Garza's death.

"There were understandable sensitivities around connecting the use of alcohol to Nick during the course of the investigation," Spears said. "Nick's mother, and his entire family, were just holding out hope that Nick would be found."

The administration has, however, made indirect references.

"If you go back to last spring and look at the conversa-

tions and initiatives that have taken place on campus in the wake of Nick's death, you will see that the College was following up along the way," Spears said, pointing in particular to President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz's baccalaureate address last spring, conversations on alcohol use with student leaders in the fall and plans to convene an alcohol task force later this semester.

Spears said residential life staff will play an integral role as the dialogue continues.

According to the police report, during a preliminary search of Garza's room two days after he disappeared, then-CRA of Atwater Commons Lizzie Torkelson '07 encouraged a student to hide a bottle of rum in Garza's closet, in case Public Safety came through.

"Residential life staff are there first and foremost to keep students safe, and they need to continue to do that," Spears said. "They need to look after the students who are living on their hallways and keep the lines of communication open. At the same time, it's their responsibility to uphold College policy and law."

Much of this responsibility is also delegated to the student body at large.

"Students need to take hold of this issue," Spears said. "This is the kind of problem that no amount of administrative finger-wagging is going to solve."

Spears called on the College community to develop a "regularized, everyday understanding of how to follow up on the dangers that come with irresponsible drinking."

"This could have happened to any number of students," he said. "That's what we have to confront. I think students need to look at the tragedy that happened to Nick Garza and ask themselves about their own behavior, about their friends' behavior, and decide how they're going to handle a situation like this when it comes down the pike."

Spears said it is not his intention to cast blame on anyone for Garza's death.

"The nature of college life is this: When you go to school in northern New England and have the kind of winters we have, and students drink the way they do, you put yourself in harm's way," Spears said. "And who's going to handle the consequences? We have to look out for one another. And I hope that understanding begins to creep into student life if it isn't there already."



File Photo/Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor

The search for Garza required collaboration among regional agencies.

## Long-time staff to say goodbye

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tary terminations," Norton said. "The Early Retirement Program provides incentives to encourage eligible employees to voluntarily end employment with the College."

The full list of retiring employees is confidential, as are the support and benefits of the program.

"The big thing about me leaving is that I'm at the right age," Draper explained. "A lot of people working in the dining halls aren't as old as I am. I think only a few dining staff are leaving. One is leaving from Ross."

Draper reminisced about his time working at Middlebury.

"I've gotten to know a lot of students here, especially by sight," he said. "As you go

back in time, it's harder for me to remember them. But some of them I knew really well. And I remember when these booths here in the FIC lounge used to be in the old Crest Room until the summer of 1991."

When asked what he would like to do after he finishes working at Middlebury College, Draper said he would like to visit some people and spend time with his dog.



## Middbrief

by Jaime Fuller, News Editor

### Aylie Baker '09 awarded prestigious Watson Fellowship

Aylie Baker '09 has been awarded a Watson Fellowship for the 2009-2010 year. Her project is titled "Voices for the Future: Using Islanders' Stories for Civic Engagement," and explores the use of audio storytelling to build community and create a dialogue about sustainability on islands, while utilizing a more civic form of journalism. She will visit the Maldives, the Canaries, the Chiloé Archipelago and Palau. Baker noted in her project proposal, available on the Thomas J. Watson Fellowship Web site, that audio storytelling has the ability to bypass stereotypes propagated by romantic renderings of island communities as presented by most media.

"Audio narratives disarm prejudice by rendering the listener blind," Baker wrote. "Stripped of physical attributes, stories become portals into the lives of others."

Growing up in Maine, Baker was always aware of islands and the changes that they have been undergoing in recent years. She hopes to bring the knowledge she gathers back to her home state to contribute to solving issues faced by island and coastal communities.

The 2009-2010 Watson fellows were announced March 15, and included 40 graduating students in the Class of 2009. The Thomas J. Watson Fellowship Pro-



Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor

gram's mission is to "offer college graduates of unusual promise a year of independent, purposeful exploration and travel outside of the United States in order to enhance their capacity for resourcefulness, imagination, openness, and leadership and to foster their humane and effective participation in the world community."

"I've had a tremendous support network throughout this process," said Baker. "I need to thank Karen Guttentag, Sue Halpern and John Elder for their mentorship, among many others."



Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor

### THE LORD OF THE DANCE HITS THE MIDDLEBURY STAGE

On Tues., students performed traditional Irish step dances in what was perhaps the most sober celebration of St. Patrick's Day that occurred on the Middlebury campus this year.

# Fewer apply for regular decision

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

if not a few more."

The number of prospective students attending informational sessions and campus tours has declined six percent. Clagett believes that this could be a result of higher gasoline prices and generally inflated expenses of traveling.

Despite the economic crisis, however, little has changed with regard to domestic applicants, who are accepted need-blind. Although little can be known about the financial circumstances of admitted students, it is very possible that the economic crisis will have an impact on aid eligibility. The College vows to meet 100 percent of a student's expressed need and intends to do so in order to remain competitive with other colleges' need-based offers.

"We do not have any reason to believe that the economic crisis will have an effect on our yield," Clagett asserts, believing that the College will welcome the same number of students next fall as it did in 2008.

It is no secret that the Office of Admissions has reviewed international students need-awake for the past several years. But, in a recent message to the College community, President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz announced that next year the College will be increasing its total spending for financial aid solely for international students from \$7.5 million to approximately \$8 million next year.

"We have a set budget for international grant assistance," Clagett says, "and it is important that we not overspend that budget ... Since the average grant that eligible in-

ternational students receive is about \$10,000 more than the average grant for domestic aid recipients, it is important that we maintain some control over the number of grant-eligible international students."

Middlebury stands out from other liberal arts colleges in that about 11 percent of its students come from abroad. The Student Financial Services Office informs the admissions board if they have overstepped their budget only after they have made their initial decisions regarding international students.

"We sometimes have had to revisit a few of those initial decisions," Clagett admitted. "In the past that has been done very little or not at all."

Ultimately, for the class of 2013, the same number of international students is expected to enroll as in past years.

One factor that did change was the number of early decision students accepted. About 45 percent of the Class of 2013 has already been admitted early decision. Clagett attributes this to the strong characteristics of this year's ED pool and denies any rumors that these students have not been enrolling as expected.

"As always, we asked ourselves the all-important question in the ED process: 'Are we certain that this is someone who would also be admitted in the regular pool,'" Clagett said. "It turns out that this year, there were even more highly-qualified applicants for whom the answer to that question was a definitive 'yes.'"

This increase in admitted ED students has led to an inevitable reduction in the number of students that were admitted in the regular decision process. However, since



Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor

The number of students on tours has declined, the College is aiming to make next year's incoming class slightly larger than that of previous years, the reduction in the number of regular decision students accepted turns out to be negligible.

"As always, our primary goal is to give our faculty and students the most interesting and eclectic new group of students to interact with and learn from that we can," Clagett said, "and I think we have been successful in achieving that for many years."

This includes accepting students from many different socioeconomic, geographic and cultural backgrounds. In recent years, the College has reached out to college-access organizations across the country to try to increase socioeconomic and racial diversity. As a result, the number of applicants of color has doubled in just three years.

## CCupdate

by Hilary Hall, Staff Writer

On March 10, the Community Council met to discuss its plans for the remainder of the spring semester. Following the unanimous approval of last week's minutes, Acting Dean of the College Gus Jordan brought up the Community Principles plan from last semester. Community Principles, which, though two years in the making, is still in a fairly early stage of administrative progress, is a plan for a type of social honor code. It will ask students to look after each other and keep each others' and the community's, best interests in mind.

"It is a cultural change," said Tahirah Foy '10.

Community Council had sought faculty approval on this issue, only to be rebuffed by the Faculty Council, which questioned whether or not it was necessary to sign another document considering what is already in the handbook. The Community Council believes strongly that it is, and Jordan and Wonnacott Commons Dean Matt Longman have put considerable time and energy into building support for the issue.

Citing these challenges with faculty, though, Hiba Fakhoury '09, in her first Community Council meeting as Student Government Association (SGA) president, offered to take it on, as SGA has decided to focus on the honor code for the rest of the spring. The Council thus voted to have SGA members and Community Council members Foy, Raymond Queliz '11, Assistant Professor of Spanish Juana Gamero de Coca and Director of Health and Wellness Education Jyoti Daniere meet with the Faculty Council to move forward on the issue.

"It has to be lived and breathed," Daniere said.

The Council then discussed the social house reviews, which are still in progress, and decided to create a standardized protocol for future years.

The meeting adjourned after a brief discussion about the new alcohol policy — which is in the works and waiting for President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz's review — the Queer Studies House's first year and the SGA's data collection concerning the Honor Code.

## public safety log

March 9 - March 16, 2009

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
3/9/2009	11:40 a.m.	Vandalism	Broken Window	Axinn Center	Referred to Commons Dean
3/10/2009	11:59 a.m.	Vandalism	Organ Pipes	Mead Chapel	Referred to Dean of the College and Commons Deans
3/10/2009	8:25 a.m.	Unlawful Trespass	Residential Dorm Room Entry	LaForce	Referred to Dean of the College and Commons Deans
3/11/2009	10:45 p.m.	Theft from Public Space	Methods Notebook with Exam	McCardell Bicentennial	Referred to Dean of the College and Commons Deans
3/11/2009	3:41 p.m.	Vandalism	Damage to Elevator	Hadley	Open
3/15/2009	3:52 a.m.	Vandalism	Door Sensor	Coffrin Hall	Referred to Commons Dean

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 12 alcohol citations between March 9, 2009 and March 16, 2009.



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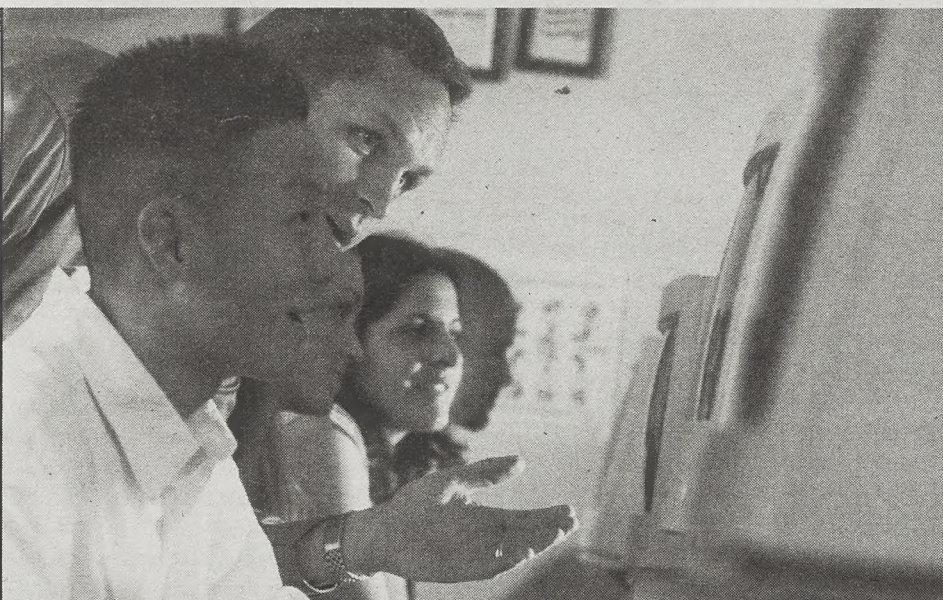
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# Here's the steeple. Open the door.

New survey reveals Vermont as most secular state in the Union

By Elizabeth Scarinci, Staff Writer

The steeple of the Congregational Church of Middlebury is the most defining characteristic of the town's skyline. But despite the steeples that dominate many Vermont towns, religion is a declining landmark of the state. The most recent American Religious Identification Survey (ARIS), released March 9, showed that a record 34 percent of Vermonters claim no religious affiliation, making Vermont the most secular state in the country, followed by New Hampshire and Maine.

The Program on Public Values at Trinity College recently conducted the last of three surveys from 1990 to 2008. On a national level, Americans who claim no religion almost doubled from 1990 to 2008. In 1990, 8.2 percent claimed no religion, which spiked to 14.2 percent in 2001 and is now at 15 percent. The number of people answering "None" grew in every state.

Vermont's status as the leader of "Nones" is an issue that Vermonters themselves can unfurl. Professor Larry Yarbrough, chair of the Religion department at the College, speculates that part of the reason is that Vermonters are independent and freethinking.

"For the most part, they are not susceptible to be led one way or another, and that definitely comes in [to play]," Yarbrough said.

Anne Brown, communication director of the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont, said that religious institutions could be better communicating their missions and relating them better to Vermonters' lives.

"I think this is a response to the failure of the institutional religious bodies to respond in a creative and helpful way to the search for meaning," Brown said. "We have often been more focused on maintaining tradition than on meeting people where they are with something that works for them."

Yarbrough said he would be interested in a survey that asked the people who claim no religion if they were spiritual but just did not associate with an organized religion. He speculates that many Vermonters who find themselves spiritual would say that they can encounter God in nature.

Associate Professor of Religion Rebecca Kneale Gould said that, in some circles, religion is becoming less relevant, while in other contexts, particularly conservative, evangelical ones, religion is on the rise. In the former category it is often the case that people are turning to nature as an alternative form of spirituality. Gould has published a book called "At Home in Nature: Modern Homesteading and Spiritual Practice in America" which interprets the lives and practices of people who live closer to nature and find spirituality through living harmonious, self-sufficient and anti-consumerist lives.

"In term of the homesteading movement, it is often the case that people are born and raised in Jewish and Christian families, and then these religions cease to be meaningful to them for a lot of reasons," Gould said.

She commented on the cultural shifts in the 1960s that played a role in the rise of homesteading. "These people would say that nature was it, that nature is the ultimate authority and source of meaning," said Gould.

Yarbrough said that on many issues and even among admittedly religious people, "Vermont has been ahead of the curve." He commented that Vermont has been supportive in giving leadership roles to gays and lesbians in

# ...where are all the people?

the church and has been at the forefront of the movement to allow civil unions to same-sex couples. Brown added that the liberalism of the church has both attracted and discouraged people.

"We have lost some people over the liberal attitudes of many in leadership in the diocese, but we have also gained some who have been attracted by our inclusiveness," Brown said.

St. Mary's Church in Middlebury proves to be the exception to the trend, having seen an increase in attendance over the last several years. Father William Beaudin of St. Mary's Church said that is largely due to the church's relationship to the College, active clergy and social outreach.

"Middlebury is a rarity because it only has one immediate parish community," Beaudin said.

Yarbrough speculates that some people will turn to religion in hard economic times.

"My guess is that religious attendance will go up in some places," he said. "They want to get back to their roots. They want some sense of security and long-term purpose."

Gould stressed the complexity of the issue of reported religious "decline." She said that it is important to recognize that not everyone fits into the categories that the survey provided, which were: "Catholic, Other Christian, Other Religion or None." She proposed the complicated scenario of someone who shies away from the religion that they grew up with, but is still shaped in a major way by that religion. Perhaps after her children are born, she may bring them to church on a more regular basis, but she actually doesn't go along with much of the church doctrine and would never become a member. She primarily likes the hymns, the general spiritual atmosphere and the opportunity for her children to learn something about their religious heritage. But she has a hard time stomaching what others — including the church authorities — think she ought to believe. "How would you categorize a woman like that one?" Gould queried, "Is she religious or non-religious?"

"Religion is really messy," Gould said. "This survey makes it look structured, but the numbers cover over a situation that is much more complicated than that."

"As a former mentor of mine used to say," Gould concluded, "You can turn people into numbers, but you have to turn them back into people again."

Photo by Evan Masseau

The Congregational Church of Middlebury is a defining landmark in the town, even through times of declining numbers of Vermonters claiming a religion.

## Feeling uncovered?

The town of Shoreham puts their passion for literacy on display in a new calendar, page 8.

## With a dream in her heart

Ellen Walter stakes a long-term claim with Blue Moon Clothing and Gifts, page 9.

## Phish phan?

Legendary Vermont band's reunion revives markings of their legacy on the Burlington music scene, page 9.





## town/gown



by Grady Ross

Last Saturday morning, I took a walk in the fields around my house. I had four essays due last Friday, two looming on the horizon and a couple of midterms during the week about which I was not particularly excited. I knew I could get it done, but I had no motivation.

For the first time since mid-December, the weather is not in sync with my responsibilities: I find it so much easier to be stuck in my room reading 200 pages when the alternative is a drizzly monochrome sky and blue extremities. Springtime in Vermont, on the other hand, was not meant to be enjoyed from behind a window.

I knew that if I stayed on campus I would let my work ethic (OK, my guilt) force me indoors to some thrilling analysis of iambic pentameter. No: to really embrace spring, I had to remove myself completely from Middlebury's environment of expectations and deadlines. So I took the fifteen minute trek home to spend a few hours meandering around the farmland where I grew up.

Forgive the following — I realize that it's overly sentimental. But if nothing else, it's proof of the power under which spring holds me. I should start perhaps with the smell: there is the spicy biting scent from the pine lot in back of my house, the sickly-sweet rot of last summer's grass making one final appearance before it yields to new green shoots, manure riding the breeze from the farm across the road, the last puffs of wood smoke from the neighbor's chimney as it prepares for a six month retirement. I imagine if emotions had a scent, this would be happiness.

Cheesy? Absolutely. But I am happy. And why not? Here is the tree where my siblings and I built our fort. Here is the giant rock on which we stood to wave to our grandfather, watching for his tractor to crest the hill each time he finished planting a row. Here is the oak where we collected acorns. Here is the stream, only present in early spring when the snow begins to melt, where we sent stick boats down a whitewater course.

I was completely disoriented when I returned to campus. I forgot for that hour or so that just down the road was an entirely different reality. What a bizarre scenario, I thought to myself. I can be at one moment a child, and just minutes later a student, running an independent and grown-up routine.

I appreciated the proximity of home more than ever on that walk. It is a place where I can wholly ignore what society expects of me and do instead what my instincts tell me. I know we're supposed to grow up, move on, embrace new experiences and live up to the potential we promised we had in our college applications. But sometimes I just want to race stick boats with my brother.

There, I admitted it: I get really sick of being an adult. I know I'm not the only one here. So, set aside responsibility for two moments: you know you'll get that paper done at some point, you know you'll make time to study. Let it be for now and go make some memories of your own.

There is no better time or place to be a kid again than springtime in Vermont.



Employees of Shoreham's Halfway House Restaurant offer a taste of the "artfully nude" photos seen in the "Shoreham Uncovered" calendar, on sale at the town's Platt Memorial Library. Proceeds from the calendar sales will go toward renovating the library. Courtesy

## Shoreham bares all for library benefit calendar

By Lea Calderon-Guthe  
STAFF WRITER

The United States has no federal laws against public nudity, but Vermont is one of the only states in the Union without laws requiring clothing in public. The townspeople of Shoreham, however, are not trying to play into the naked Vermonter stereotype: they took off their clothes for community, not celebrity.

Eight years ago, in the tiny meeting room of the Platt Memorial Library, the townspeople of Shoreham decided that their library, while historic and charming, was too small. Three years later, after halting advances in fundraising, Leslie Goodrich proposed a naked calendar, inspired by the 2003 film "Calendar Girls." In early 2007, the staging began for Shoreham's own naked calendar.

"There's certainly nothing raunchy or lewd about it," Goodrich said. "Edgy, funny, unusual — yeah, but we did something a little different from what we've seen done in other places. Other calendars have been all men or all women and they haven't been of mixed age, but our calendar is really a community venture and it ranges in ages from seven months to 70 years old, and there are men and women in all walks of life."

The calendar features 12 color photos of seemingly nude members of businesses from the Shoreham Inn to the Fort Ticonderoga Ferry. The library itself is also featured in February. Jim Ortuno, owner of Shoreham Upholstery, represented most community members when he said the idea was alarming at first, but posing nude was a very simple thing to do to support the library.

"It was about doing for the community, and I was goaded into it more than anything else by the members of the library board," Ortuno said. "You don't necessarily have to be an exhibitionist to do this. I'm not an exhibitionist — it was just something that needed to be done. Getting past that and making this fun was what it was all about."

The cost of renovations to double the space in the 800-square-foot building is over \$500,000. When the Friends of the Platt Memorial Library, a non-profit organization formed to oversee the building project, began with bake sales, plant sales and wine and cheese parties, they were met with limited success in a town of less than 1,300 people.

"We wanted to try and reach out to a larger group of people than just folks in Shoreham," Goodrich said.

Goodrich's plan worked. Calendar sales have netted over \$20,000 on top of the \$180,000 raised through smaller fundraisers. Shannon Bohler-Small, president of the Friends and events and administrative coordinator at the Center for the Arts, said the calendar has been "far and away [their] best fundraiser," but the Friends are only halfway there. They are considering grants to push their funds over the top.

The construction costs of expansion will support additional programming. The library will become handicap-accessible, and the extra space will be used to expand the collections. Additionally, the renovated library will have a new computer room and serve as a community meeting space.

"Meeting space is at a premium in Shoreham," Bohler-Small said. "The people of Shoreham want to maintain their own

town personality and not get drawn into being sort of like a bedroom community for Middlebury."

Community has been a recurring theme throughout the calendar production. The calendar came together because of the townspeople's willingness to disrobe, and it was produced professionally for free by Tom and Lisa Balfour. The Balfours' creative Photoshopping allowed Shoreham's residents to bare only what they were comfortable with.

"A lot of people have different views about the purpose and place of the public library and what a community means, but if you think about getting almost naked with everybody, you're taking down those barriers," Goodrich said. "You're opening up and being together with nothing to hide."

The openness of Shoreham's community members has sold calendars because of the humor in seeing regular folks in the buff, but also because of what it means; a year's worth of people so dedicated to their community they are willing to take their clothes off has appeal that is apparently worldwide.

"There are a few repercussions of things that happened afterwards because of notoriety," Ortuno said. "I have people come into the shop that I've never met before and they'll look around and say, 'This is where you guys shot the calendar!' or they'll call and say, 'Are you guys wearing clothes today while you're working?' All of this from perfect strangers."

Those perfect strangers might feel comfortable sharing that joke with Ortuno because he and his fellow business owners felt comfortable sharing their community (and their privates) with the world.

## LOCALLY LOCO

a log of the (sometimes) crazy events off College Street

from the Middlebury Police Department public log

## 3/11 - VAGRANCY

Employee at the National Bank of Middlebury reported two people sleeping in the ATM lobby.

## 3/12 - FRAUD

Caller reported someone posing as a fireman was trying to sell tickets for a country and western concert as a fundraiser. A check with the Middlebury Fire Department (MFD) revealed that no one was conducting any type of solicitation for MFD.

## 3/13 - MISCELLANEOUS INCIDENT

Caller advised her previous foster mother was refusing to return caller's clothing as well as her daughter's. Made contact with foster mother, who advised she had not called her, and if she does, she will make arrangements for her to retrieve same.

## 3/16 - ANIMAL INCIDENT

911 dispatched officer to Case Street and Quarry Road area for a deer in the roadway that wouldn't move for traffic. Until officer touched deer with flashlight, it did not move.





Courtesy

## Phish still supreme among Vt. music scene

By Molly Holmes

STAFF WRITER

On March 6, the Vermont-based jam band Phish reunited in Hampton, Va. for what would be the beginning of a new phase in the band's musical career. Critics deemed the festival a success for the band, and their recently announced summer tour is already sold out. But as the most famous band to come out of Vermont revives its presence in the national arena, the band's influence is still seen in Vermont's thriving music scene.

It is estimated that 75,000 "phans" and "phriends" made the trek to Virginia in hopes of seeing the hugely popular band play together after their five-year hiatus. Lynne Noble '11.5 was one of many students from Middlebury and other New England colleges to make the 12-hour drive to see the three sets.

"[The shows] were absolutely incredible, by far the best Phish shows I have ever heard," she said.

Phish has deep roots in Vermont. The members were students at the University of Vermont when they began playing in dorm basements in 1986. They rose to fame in the early '90s, becoming the most successful jam band since the Grateful Dead.

Despite their popularity, the band has managed to maintain a presence in Vermont. They practiced for their reunion in lead singer

Trey Anastasio's barn outside of Burlington. They also continue to record at their JEMP Records studio in downtown Burlington. Aaron Krivitzky '09.5, a self-proclaimed "Phish-head" who attended the festival, weighed in on Phish's connection to Vermont.

"Phish is definitely influenced by the people and nature of Vermont," he said. "Vermont's music scene is an interesting microcosm because if you want to get serious, or if you get famous, you have to leave," he said.

None of Phish's announced reunion summer tour locations are in Vermont. Most of the venues booked for the summer accommodate upwards of 20,000 people. Higher Ground, the largest music venue in Burlington, has a capacity of about 600 people.

When Phish announced their breakup in 2004, they played their final show at an outdoor venue in Coventry, Vt. This event was a "musical and logistical failure," according to Krivitzky. The venue could not hold the 65,000 fans that showed up, and when the parking lots filled up, people parked along the highway for almost 20 miles.

Almost five years after their farewell, Phish has returned to embark on what many are calling "Phase II" of their musical career. The response from Phish's fan base, which has a large Internet presence, has been overwhelmingly positive.

"They played the full spectrum of material from every era of their musical career, but with a new, mature sound," Noble said.

Phish's legacy has greatly influenced the Burlington music scene, affecting both jam bands and the Vermont music culture.

"UVM's hippy-head scene that has built up around Phish and jam music attracts certain bands to the area," Krivitzky said.

High-profile jam bands, such as the Disco Biscuits and Lotus, always include a stop in Burlington on their tours to cater to a culture that has been molded by Phish's influence. The scene has also helped foster a number of local jam bands such as Tequila Mockingbird.

Most local "phans" believe that despite their recent return to the national arena, the members of Phish will retain their Vermont roots. Mike Gordon, the band's bassist, can be spotted at Higher Ground, supporting other local artists. He often takes the stage with other local musicians for a guest appearance. Despite the fact that Phish was logistically unable to hold their reunion concert in Vermont, local fans should not lose hope. An employee at Higher Ground hinted that they may have a show in their home state planned.

"Vermont is where jam originated," Noble said. "Vermont is very important to Phish's history and who they are. This is their home base."

## one in 8,200

where the personalities of middlebury proper are celebrated  
After migrating through Main Street, Walter finds home at Blue Moon

By Alice Wisener

STAFF WRITER



Ali Urban

Ellen Walter, owner of Blue Moon Clothing and Gifts, has established a solid business in an ever-changing environment.

On a late Saturday afternoon right before closing time, Ellen Walter, owner of Blue Moon Clothing and Gifts, confessed that she has had a long and busy day, with streams of customers coming in and out. Her unique and different style shows through her merchandise and has proved to be a favorite in the community.

Walter came to Vermont 29 years ago for the beauty and isolation. She was drawn to Middlebury in particular because of shops and the vibrancy of the town.

Walter's shop has not always been nestled neatly beside Wild Mountain Thyme on 46 Main Street. She moved 14 years ago from Bristol to a storefront near a nail salon in downtown Middlebury, and soon moved again to a spot near a bead store, before finally settling down in her current residence. It's proved to be a successful one for Walter.

"There are a lot of shops in Middlebury," Walter said, "I just want to make mine different. I go to [fashion] shows mainly in Boston and New York and try to pick out merchandise that is unique."

A quick glance around the shop will certainly confirm a distinct collection of jewelry, soaps and clothing for sale. I can't help but notice a set of intricate origami earrings on a stand by the window and a colorful beaded bag hanging on display. Walter doesn't consider her shop to be "trendy," but it's clear that her merchandise is influenced by the colors and patterns of high-fashion trends.

Although mainly acquiring most of her merchandise from shows, Walter does make some greeting cards with her 16-year-old daughter. Together, the family has a distinct identity in Middlebury, something that has manifested itself in their college search. "[My daughter] is realizing that most places are not as nice as Middlebury," Walter said with a laugh. "She still wants to go away, but I think she is starting to appreciate the beautiful landscapes and rural aspect of where she grew up."

## local lowdown

### Spring dance

March 21, 2-5 p.m.

The Unitarian Universalist Church in Middlebury is hosting a spring dance party for the whole family with particular attention to kids under 12 to benefit the tae kwon do K.I.C.K.S. scholarship program.

### Hike in Charlotte

March 21, all day.

There will be a hike or cross-country ski outing in Charlotte at Mount Philo. Join the Bread Loaf Section members of the Green Mountain Club for an easy/moderate 2-mile trek. Contact Debbie Ramsdell at 425-2027 for info and time.

### Art in Bristol

March 21, all day.

Bristol's Art on Main is welcoming submissions for its second annual Community Art Show, which runs from April 1 to May 9. Drop off your creation in any medium; it may be for sale or just for show. Info: 453-4032.

### More Irish music

March 22, 6-8 p.m.

There will be Irish music session at the Shoreham Inn that will be open to all musicians interested in playing traditional Irish music.

For more information, call 897-5448.

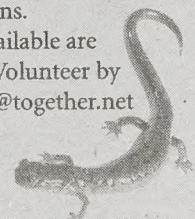


### Save some salamanders!

March 23, 8:30 p.m.

Join Otter Creek Audubon in West Salisbury and northern New Haven in the salamander escort program to help migrating salamanders, frogs and toads cross the road to safety in two locations.

Nightly shifts available are through April 26. Volunteer by contacting kinglet@together.net or 388-4082.





## The Middlebury Campus

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## Editorial

The staff editorial represents the official opinion of  
 The Middlebury Campus as decided by  
 the editorial board.

### The right report, but the wrong reasons?

The mystery of Nick Garza's '11 tragic disappearance and death came to a close on March 12 as the Middlebury Police Department (MPD) finally released the official report on its investigation. The report brings closure to a saga that last year saw search and rescue teams combing every inch of the grounds, flying overhead in helicopters and even enlisting students to help find the missing student. Available online to the public as a free download, the document successfully addresses many of the questions that have plagued us for the last 13 months, but it does so at too high a cost to the privacy and sensitivity owed his family and friends.

Last year, as the months stretched on and spring thaw brought no resolution to the Garza case, MPD came under occasional fire from parents and students when the investigation consistently failed to produce conclusive results. Though we believe the criticism is somewhat misplaced — as officials were legitimately paralyzed by the winter snowpack and other similar challenges — we cannot condone the public airing of the case's most sensational findings.

The report in question levels charges at an array of actors ostensibly to provide truth and background. One portion of the document describes how a Commons Residential Advisor, in the hours immediately following Garza's disappearance, colluded with a student to conceal a bottle of liquor from the Office of Public Safety; another highlights a prior confrontation Garza had with MPD. While these facts may shed some light on the case, the tone of the report and its public release suggest a deliberate attempt at self-exoneration. Chief of Police Tom Hanley's disparaging comments to the press about Nick's mother, and his department's failure to notify students it had interviewed that the report — which identifies them by name — would be shared in its entirety, represent nothing if not an invasion of privacy. Police files are public record, but giving a brief announcement of the report and summarizing its most important findings would have done the same job while preserving the dignity of those who contributed to the investigation.

In the past, we have criticized the College's lack of transparency regarding Nick's disappearance; now, for better or worse, we have all the answers. Nick was intoxicated — severely so — on the night that he died, a fact that Old Chapel never has acknowledged in any official capacity and should be prepared to explain in its own announcement of the police report. Acting Provost Tim Spears recently took a positive step by confirming this information on his personal blog. If we are to pursue an open dialogue as Spears recommends about the danger of alcohol abuse at the College, such an endeavor can only begin with honesty at the institutional level.

That the College bears responsibility for fostering such frank discussions, however, does not absolve us of our responsibility to one another. Despite the best efforts of the Alcohol Task Force and the Office of Health and Wellness Education, students looking to blow off steam will continue to binge drink at Middlebury no matter what the College does to limit the problem. The single most important commitment we students can make to campus security is, therefore, to assume personal responsibility for our collective health and well-being. In an environment as small as Middlebury's, that is our burden as well as our blessing.

## contact the campus

To contact The Middlebury Campus Publications  
 with story tips or content suggestions, e-mail:  
[campus@middlebury.edu](mailto:campus@middlebury.edu)  
 or find us on the web at:  
[www.middleburycampus.com](http://www.middleburycampus.com)

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## THE LAST CRUSADE

(INDIANA JONES: DISPOSING AT THE GRILLE)



You must choose, but choose wisely. For as the true Grail  
 will bring you life, the false Grail will take it from you.

John Birnbaum

## Notes from the Desk: Tamara Hilmes

### No thanks for the memories

Between March 9 and March 12, I received three different e-mails in my inbox enticing me to walk over to Axinn to get my picture taken for the yearbook. They made fancy YouTube videos, snazzy posters, and last-minute reminders, all of which assaulted me from my computer screen and dining hall entrances. So, after all of the incentive, did I make the five-minute walk to Axinn to get my face immortalized? Heck no. And though this may seem like mere laziness on my part, in actuality, it is a quite calculated move on my part to eliminate the *Kaleidoscope* yearbook.

Okay, so that might sound a little harsh, especially coming from an editor of another campus publication. It may seem strange that I am advocating for the demise of one of our own kind, but let me begin by telling you that I do, in fact, know what I'm talking about — I was the Editor-in-Chief of the Middlebury yearbook when I was a first-year. I personally suffered through an insane number of hours toiling away in a closet-sized office in Ross, laying out a 282-page book sans the help of a staff — and for what? All so that a handful of senior parents could have a pretty, navy blue book to put on their coffee tables. It may seem as though I'm exaggerating, but take a look at the following points:

1) The Middlebury yearbook is distributed only to seniors who have graduated, and possibly a handful of Febs who identify with the graduating class. The books are not printed until the fall of the year following graduation, meaning that the books arrive on campus, and are immediately shipped off to the homes of the already-departed seniors. One copy is sent to the library, and a few others may float around, but it remains true that almost no one apart from graduated seniors and their parents ever even get a glimpse of the book that supposedly encapsulates an entire year of our lives on this campus.

2) The yearbook is given to all seniors free of charge. That is to say, we are all paying for yearbooks through our activity fee, as the yearbook budget goes through the SGA Finance Committee. In my past experience, yearbooks usually cost around \$45 each, and we are giving hundreds of these away. Here is another key reason that the yearbook should be eliminated from Middlebury: the cost. When I was editor as a first-year, the budget allocated to *Kaleidoscope* to produce the yearbook falls within the \$10,000-15,000 range, if I recall correctly. That's tens of thousands of dollars going toward an obsolete product.

3) Yes, that's right — obsolete. Yearbooks, as Ryan Kellett '95 recently cited on MiddBlog, are no longer relevant. In high school it might have been possible — and even necessary — to record a whole year's worth of events in one book in order to trick parents into paying an extra 50 bucks to the school, but really, as students of Middlebury College, do we really think baby ads are necessary? I couldn't care less about looking at childhood photos of my classmates, but perhaps that's just me. Also, as a generation obsessed with Facebook and other digital means of preserving memories, are 282 pages of photos really a worthwhile use of resources? Isn't the yearbook just a glorified version of the New Faces book that we received as first-years? As a former editor of the College yearbook, I know that this is an exaggeration, and had someone said this to me when I was working my butt off to get pages laid out and sent to print during Senior Week, I would have cried. Which brings me to my next point:

4) Being a member of the yearbook production staff is an utterly thankless, and I would argue, impossible task. When I was editor, the yearbook didn't even garner enough interest to build a staff, and I was left to work alone. Even had there been an interest, the tiny office and lone computer would not have supported a yearbook staff of more than one or two people. If a group of students is going to be expected to photograph and record all of the major organizations, events and other goings-on that occur on campus over the course of the year, they are going to need more than one camera and one computer to do so.

I am not trying to say that I don't value what the yearbook stands for, and I certainly don't mean to bash tradition. As a naïve little first-year, I, too, believed in the importance of the yearbook, and sought to keep *Kaleidoscope* alive. After the miserable experience that I underwent while producing the book, however, as well as after gauging the opinions of friends and classmates on the matter, I have come to the conclusion that a yearbook holds no place at Middlebury, and the funds allocated year after year to the dying tradition could be better put toward some other cause, especially in our current economic climate.

TAMARA HILMES '10 IS A NEWS EDITOR.  
 SHE IS FROM LAWRENCE, KAN.

## campus policies and information

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, [campus@middlebury.edu](mailto:campus@middlebury.edu) or via the paper's web site at [www.middleburycampus.com](http://www.middleburycampus.com). To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Sunday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.



## Behind Enemy Lines: Andrey Tolstoy

### Your passion for learning makes me gag

Class participation is war by other means. When shooting for that 5-15 percent, keep in mind that you are leading a two-front campaign, in which the class participant par excellence will strike a harmonious balance between his two strategic objectives: earning the sympathy of the professor and avoiding alienation from his peers. Too often, one is sacrificed for the other, particularly in favor of the first objective. This is a grave error, and if you are guilty of committing it, your best advice is to keep reading. In no particular order, I present to you an arbitrary number of commandments.

1. Two words for freshmen: cool it. Hundreds of fascinating tidbits about your Febmester? Inane musings on the subject? Irrelevant personal commentary? Keep it to yourself. Once a sophomore, you'll observe the new flock of first-years, and you'll know to listen not to your wide-eyed inner child, but to the callous geezer now in its place.

2. If, in the course of the 30 minutes that you've had your hand raised, the point you were going to make has been made by someone else, under no circumstances should you continue to insist on speaking. Furthermore, if the professor takes pity on your strained body and responds to your signals for attention, prefacing your comment with "I was going to say the same thing" and proceeding to say that very same thing makes it triply redundant — and an unbearable waste of time.

3. Some professors try to keep the atmosphere of their class light by cracking a joke every once in a while. Few of these are zingers — usually due to the generational gap between them and their students — and the professors' subsequent self-deprecation is usually of greater hilarity. In some unfortunate classrooms, the pleasure is interrupted regularly by the apple-shiner who thinks it's a great idea to chuckle at any comedic undertaking by his instructor. This behavior is not only tactless, but also transparent to everyone but the offender. Recognize.

4. If I ever get a say in legal matters, my first decision will be to make uses of "like," "I mean," "I feel," "I don't know," "I was just going to say," and other diarrheal verbiage crimes against humanity. The offenders' sentences will be read to them in their own parlance: "This court was just going to say that, like..."

5. Critical of the war in Iraq? Dislike George Bush? No way, me too! Let's start a club and call it Middlebury College. The only thing worse than a student invoking the recent presidency as an example of anything pertinent to class discussion is a professor invoking the recent presidency as an example of anything pertinent to class discussion. (Corollary: the only thing worse than political partisanship is snarky political partisanship.) Middlebury is ho-

**Critical of the war in Iraq? Dislike George Bush? No way, me too! Let's start a club and call it Middlebury College.**

mogenous enough as it is; let's not overstate our similarities now.

6. If you're going to bring a laptop to class, have the decency to make your alternative use of it inconspicuous. When you don't raise your eyes above screen-level for an hour and fifteen minutes, the object of your attention may be of great interest to the rows behind you (unless you're watching ski videos, barf), but probably doesn't endear you to the instructor. I don't know what professors think about this, but when you suddenly emerge from your stupor to say, "Well, it says here on Wikipedia that..." it strikes me as particularly deviant. When my father was a professor and his students weren't paying attention, he would toss the damp rag he used for his chalkboard at one of them. He only needed to do it once a semester.

If anything I've written here strikes you as outrageous or hypocritical — too bad. I have a column and you don't. Have a wild spring break, and send questions/comments/ideas to [behindenemylines-midd@gmail.com](mailto:behindenemylines-midd@gmail.com).

ANDREY TOLSTOY '10 IS FROM ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA.

**heardoncampus**  
We got [Nick Garza's] case five days and two feet of snow [after he disappeared].

**— Middlebury Chief of Police Thomas Hanley**

**Op-Ed: David Peduto**  
**Our integrity, our responsibility**

With the pending student vote on the Honor Code Review Committee's recommendations for the Honor Code, I would like to express what I believe is necessary in order to achieve this endeavor.

I believe that we need to revitalize the spirit of the Honor Code. This doesn't just come in the wake of professors having the option to proctor exams (pending the student body vote). I believe that this revitalization must originate from us, the students.

Why? Professors want to try to limit the amount of cheating that goes on in the classroom, and I believe that they have the right to exercise whatever options they see necessary to ensure an honest testing zone. I have no problem with that. What bothers me is that the recent focus on academic integrity comes from the professors, when I believe that it should be coming from the students. To me, all of the things that we get tested on mean nothing if we, as a student body, don't maintain an atmosphere of integrity.

And that's what it comes down to: integrity. I believe that it is incumbent upon all of us to uphold the values inherent in any honor code on any campus anywhere. Peri-

od. An honor code by itself does nothing if it does not reflect the honest conduct of those that it is meant to represent. An honor code is just words if we don't translate them into our own actions. An honor code is weak if its stated values are not strong in practice.

However, when we give meaning to a phrase meant to reflect a contract of character, it serves as a symbol of what an institution and its members stand for. It serves as a model for others. And most importantly, it serves as a testament to one's own integrity. I believe that this is what we must aim for in our Honor Code.

Perhaps professors proctoring exams is a stepping stone to a higher level of academic integrity here at Middlebury College. And I believe that a high level of academic integrity translates into a high level of integrity in our endeavors after Middlebury. That, to me, is the real reason for an honor code: to strengthen our base of integrity into a solid foundation upon which we can weather any crisis, any calamity, with our virtue intact.

This, I believe.

DAVID PEDUTO '11 IS A SOPHOMORE CLASS SENATOR. HE IS FROM EAST GREENWICH, R.I.

**What bothers me is that the recent focus on academic integrity comes from the professors when it should be coming from the students.**

## Op-Ed: Caroline Woodworth

### Explaining the Comprehensive Fee

To shed more light on the recommendation provided by the Comprehensive Fee Committee regarding the price tag on a Middlebury education, we, as a committee, felt obligated to further explain our decision-making process. Firstly, however, we would like to explain the procedures under which we operated for the months of January and February. The committee of 11 students was established in November, and then subsequently broken into pairs and assigned specific budget segments to investigate (i.e. Student Services, Academic and Instructional Support, Auxiliary Services, Institutional Support, Library and Information Services, Maintenance and Operations). In working closely with budget administrators, the committee members had the opportunity to better understand the current cost structure, as well as future cost reducing opportunities for their specific divisions. We then released two all-campus surveys that sought to provide insight into the more intricate underpinnings of student life on campus, garnering over 720 unique results. Finally, compiling all of the investigative studies, we presented "Taking Initiative: Maintaining Core Values of Middlebury" to the Board of Trustees on Feb. 19, 2009.

As for our recommendation, the preliminary discussion factored in two key metrics: the Inflation Index for Higher Education, 3.6 percent for 2010, and the increase of the comprehensive fee for FY09, 4.9 percent. We used these parameters to frame our discussion, supplemented by specific information of budget segments collected by committee members. Our final recommendation of a 4.0 percent increase in the

comprehensive fee reflected the tumultuous balancing act between identifying potential areas for budgetary relief and maintaining the core values of Middlebury, while altering the precedent of unsustainable increases to the cost of a Middlebury education.

The current fiscal challenges facing Middlebury cannot be overlooked and they present obstacles that run the risk of affecting future generations of Middlebury students. The

**Maintaining the excellence of our academic integrity and extra-curricular experiences is paramount to the experiences we value.**

Committee believes that the undergraduate population has an obligation to assist the College in bringing its finances back into balance through a reduction in services and an increase in fees. The deficit created by the losses in the endowment and declined levels of alumni giving have generated an urgent pressure on the College to reevaluate its cost structure. Since the comprehensive fee supplies the College with 54 percent of its overall annual revenue (FY09), we believe that an increase in the fee for the upcoming year would be the most prudent and accountable response from the student body. The report also provided the trustees with several cost-saving recommendations such as removing campus room phones, reduc-

ing menu options at The Grille and reducing the programming budget of the commons.

As the counterpart to budget relief, we also addressed the core values of Middlebury. Its mission is to provide a world-class educational experience to all its students, both in- and outside the classroom. The diversity of the 2,400 students that fill the dorms, classrooms, playing fields and performance halls from September through May is the lifeblood of the institution, and that fact cannot be forgotten. Maintaining the excellence of our academic integrity and extra-curricular experiences is paramount to the experiences that we as students value. We urged the trustees to consider these reputational attributes as they look forward.

Throughout our discussion, we have been guided by this dichotomy of forces. We recognize the financial situation of the College and purposefully wish to enact an atmosphere of cost cutting. However, we simultaneously encouraged the trustees to reflect on maintaining the core values of Middlebury in our continual pursuit of excellence and distinction. This incredibly difficult task is not enviable, but it grants us the opportunity to truly define ourselves as a community and as a responsive educational institution.

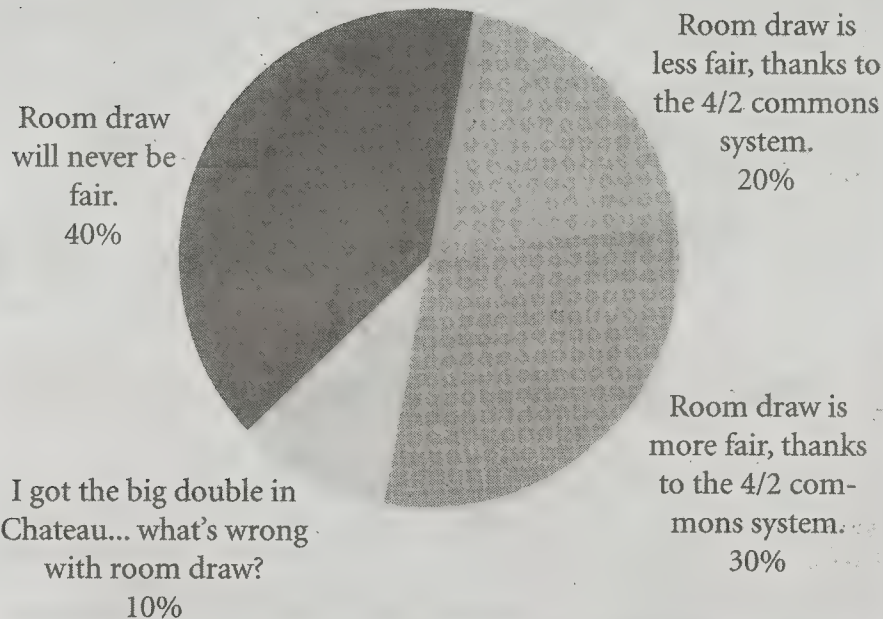
For more information about the committee, or for a copy of the report, please e-mail [sgafc@middlebury.edu](mailto:sgafc@middlebury.edu).

CAROLINE WOODWORTH '09 IS THE CHAIR OF THE COMPREHENSIVE FEE COMMITTEE, AND WRITES ON ITS BEHALF.



## The Campus Poll

How do you feel about Middlebury's housing situation?



Next week's question:

How do you feel about this year's changes to Middlebury's concert programming?

In order to make *The Campus* opinions section a more accessible medium, starting this semester *The Campus* will include a poll containing not only numerical data but also personal statements from interested students. Each week we will post the poll question for the next week's issue. Go online to [www.middleburycampus.com](http://www.middleburycampus.com) and select the response that best reflects your position on the issue. Feel strongly about a particular poll question? On the left side of the web site click on the tab entitled "Send a Letter to the Editor" and, in 150 words or less, explain your rationale for voting as you did. Everybody has an opinion. Share it.

### Waters to Wine: Mike Waters Did somebody say, "alcohol"?

A couple of weeks ago, I was sitting in my suite talking about drinking. It was some lazy Saturday afternoon — the transition period between recovering from one night and planning for the next — when it hit me: we talk about drinking a lot. Something about sitting there, discussing our various propensities to become hungover depending on specific beverages, triggered this moment of great personal clarity. How many times had I had this conversation? How many times had I nodded knowingly when someone made a comment about the unfortunate side effects of boxed wine?

Alcohol consumption plays a role in our lives as college students far more significant than that of your average neighborhood accountant or telemarketer.

Much of our social life is alcohol-fueled, and for some people those four or five days from Monday to Thursday are nothing more than a semi-forced, semi-sober interlude unfortunately placed between weekends. In an attempt to avoid forgetting about the more important part of each week (the time between when one starts drinking and one's hangover finally goes away on Sunday), we fill this time by talking about alcohol. Booze, it seems, is always a good conversation starter. Hang around any group of people long enough — in any situation — and the conversation will inevitably take a turn for the alcoholic. Saturday morning brunch? Time to rehash the previous night and plan for the next. Passing through the Bi-Hall Great Hall? Time to ask someone about their plans for the weekend, or what they did during the last one. Sports practice? Time to talk about how wasted everyone is going to be immediately following the next competition.

Why do we talk about alcohol so frequently? And is this a bad thing? As I sat in my suite, alcohol talk happening all around me, I pondered these important questions. Here I was, with some of my closest friends from college, and instead of talking about our futures, our relationships, or anything else, what we chose to talk about was that one time we had a bad experience with tequila and couldn't eat Mexican food for a month. If I thought of all the time we had dedicated to

talking about the various aspects of drinking, what percentage of our interaction would it constitute? And was this really the best use of our time? Might we know each other that much better if we dedicated more time to discussion free of alcohol? I imagined us solving world hunger or the financial crisis, or both. If we dedicated as much time to tackling global issues as we do to coming up with drinking games, perhaps millions of lives could be saved in Africa and Atwater Dining Hall could stay open.

Whether or not we'd be better off talking about something other than our preferences for one vodka-based drink over another, it is important to recognize the role that alcohol plays in our

lives. Our incessant discussions on one topic or another are not the result of our unoriginality or simplicity, but rather are emblematic of the lives

we lead. From the moment we arrive at college, alcohol is an undeniable presence — regardless of whether we're drinking it or just smelling it spilled onto carpets — and represents a universality over which people can bond. Everyone has a story about it or someone else, and everyone has an opinion. Alcohol, in some ways, is the great social leveler, so it makes perfect sense that it dominates our conversation as much as it does. This column is a continuation of that dialogue.

Believe me, the irony of writing about how much we talk about alcohol in a column dedicated to that very thing is not lost on me. Irrespective of my occasional desires for more varied topics of conversation, I understand why drinking dominates as it does. So while it might be worthwhile to acknowledge this fact the next time the conversation takes a turn for the alcoholic, it doesn't necessarily mean we should try to stop it. We can hope that in the future, conversations might tend toward apparently more legitimate concerns, but we shouldn't force it. We can't always push ourselves to seemingly more important topics — good conversation comes in time. We can find a way to reopen Atwater — but first let me tell you what I *did* last night.

MIKE WATERS '10 IS FROM  
BEDFORD, MASS.

## Responses

I think there should be more senior housing that isn't just made for 4 people. The Atwater suites and LaForce suites are by far the biggest blocks of senior housing. Because those suites are (almost?) exclusively four-person suites, and because there aren't many five-person or six-person options for senior housing, the system pressures students to come up with four-person groups when they might prefer a five-or-six-person option. Basically, the problem is that students can't make a five-or-six-person group confidently — they can't bank on getting one of the few existing five-or-six-person suites for seniors on campus.

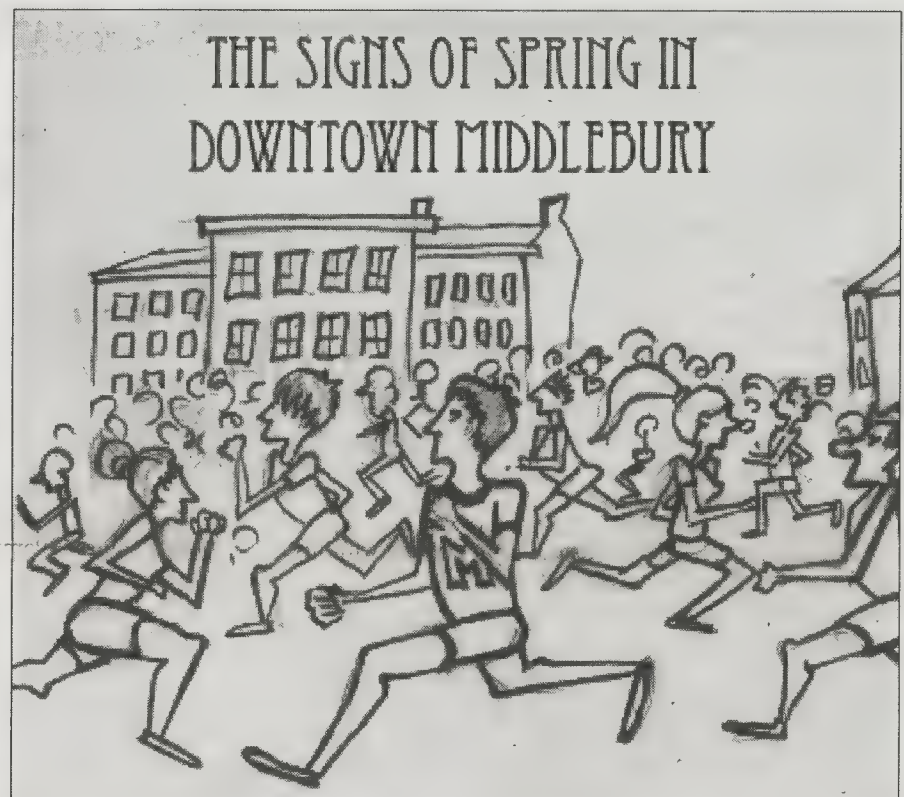
— Baker Coon '10

The school should give us our room draw numbers earlier. Without that information, it's hard to organize a successful living situation with friends and the lack of time leads to the lack of organization.

— Philippe Bronchtein '10

After having missed the chance to room in a first-year dorm and then receiving the second-worst number in room draw for sophomore year, I feel that bad luck one year in the housing system should afford one certain preferential treatment in the next.

— Adam Dede '10



Elizabeth Zevallos

Are you planning a wedding?  
Do you know someone that is getting married?  
Join us for the 9th Annual

### Middlebury Bridal Show

March 22, 2009 at the Middlebury Inn

Doors open at 11:30 ♦ Prizes at 2:30

Welcome to Middlebury College Students,  
Staff, Faculty and Alumni!

FREE Ticket with your College ID.

Brides register at [middleburybridalshow.com](http://middleburybridalshow.com)

For more information call 802.459.2897

We would love to help you plan your wedding!

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VERMONT WEDDING ASSOCIATION  
[vermontweddingassociation.com](http://vermontweddingassociation.com)



# Pavlo Levkiv's spirit lives on

## The formation of the Middlebury Wrestling Club

After Pavlo Levkiv's '11 tragic death last August, members of the College community and Levkiv's hometown, Rockaway Township, N.J., recalled and commended his unrelenting work ethic and contagious positive attitude. Now, Lewis Merl '11.5 is attempting to carry on Levkiv's legacy by completing the establishment of the wrestling club that Levkiv had been working to found before he passed away.

Levkiv, who was born with cerebral palsy, never allowed physical disability to prevent him from participating in athletics. An active member of his high school cross-country and wrestling teams at Newark Academy, he noticed Middlebury's lack of organized wrestling and began the process of founding the club.

"Pavlo's efforts at establishing a wrestling club at Middlebury were an illustration of quiet determination," former Dean of Cook Commons Matthew Carluzzo recalled in an e-mail. "Pavlo came to my office one afternoon and told me how much he loved wrestling in high school and missed being able to wrestle here at Middlebury."

Carluzzo, at Levkiv's request, agreed to be the club's advisor and asked to receive periodic updates on his progress. The College, Carluzzo explained, was rather unresponsive to Levkiv's efforts, but in keeping with his character, Levkiv refused to give up.

"Pavlo came in not long after [asking me to be the club's advisor] to report that he'd been told he couldn't start a wrestling club because of the health and safety risks associated with wrestling, the sweaty mats, etc. I told him I was sorry to hear that and that it was worth a try. But Pavlo — not fazed at all — quickly made clear that he wasn't done trying; he'd really only started," Carluzzo said.

Carluzzo emphasized that he was most impressed by Levkiv's polite persistence in his efforts to reach his goal.

"When a particular concern was raised, Pavlo would do his best to research how other NESCAC schools with wrestling clubs addressed the same issue, or consulted his old wrestling coach from home to learn his solu-

tion, or developed his own ideas and presented them for consideration," Carluzzo explained.

"Even when the answer remained 'no,' he continued to try to find a way. What really struck me as all this was happening was the amazing way in which Pavlo balanced his resolution with courtesy and open dialogue. Pavlo was never impolite or disrespectful in his conversation or e-mail. He simply tried to achieve his vision through practical facts and solutions, not desire or a refusal to listen to reason," he said.

Merl is currently tackling some of the same difficulties that Levkiv faced. However, with the memory of Levkiv still fresh in the students' and administration's minds and the additional support of Levkiv's former high school wrestling coach, Jay Gerish, Merl is confident that the wrestling club will begin competition next winter.

Merl, a native of Pomfret, Conn., regrets not knowing Levkiv very well, but the two clearly possessed a common passion. Merl wrestled for four years in high school and, like Levkiv, became addicted to the sport.

"It's one of those sports that if you stuck with it for four years in high school, you have to love it," he said. "Wrestling is a unique sport and I don't see that there are many comparable sports."

Merl initially attempted to fill the void of wrestling by joining the rugby team and noted that many former wrestlers, including Levkiv, have done the same. Still, he wanted to wrestle. When Merl heard from a friend that Gerish had mentioned Levkiv's love of wrestling at the funeral and had announced his willingness to support anyone interested in the sport, particularly in honor of Levkiv, Merl immediately e-mailed him.

"He was really happy to hear from me, and wants to be involved," Merl said.

Gerish generously donated a 40' x 40' regulation size wrestling mat to the club as an initial investment. His business of selling wrestling equipment will also continue to support the club by offering supplies at a discounted rate, Merl explained. Merl also hopes to assuage the College's concerns for health and safety, particularly for Methicillin-Resistant



Courtesy

Pavlo Levkiv (first row, second from right) poses with his high school wrestling team.

Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA), the same concerns that they voiced to Levkiv, by purchasing specialized wrestling mat cleansing wipes from Gerish.

This summer, Merl will travel to Newark Academy to pick up the donated mat. In the meantime, he will continue to gauge student interest. Merl said that he has seen many students wearing wrestling t-shirts so he knows that there are many wrestlers on campus — including some state champions — whom he hopes will assume leadership and peer-coaching positions for the club. Regardless of wrestling ability or experience, however, Merl encourages anyone and everyone to join the club.

"The club is open to all levels, guys and girls. It is open to everyone who is athletic or hasn't found their sport at Middlebury or who is a varsity athlete interested in cross-training," he said. "You use your whole body in wrestling — if you want to get in great shape, wrestling is the way to go."

Merl described the "heart" required to participate in wrestling and the rewarding aspects of being on a team. His description of the defining traits that characterize the sport are reminiscent of the descriptions Levkiv's friends use to define him.

"It takes a lot of heart to be able to pick yourself up off the mat after being on your back," Merl said. "It is very much a mind sport — brains over brawn — if you can think through moves, you can be successful."

After spring break, Merl plans to hold an introductory meeting for the club and then to host informal get-togethers and practices throughout the spring semester. He encourages anyone who is interested to contact him at lmerl@middlebury.edu.

"Wrestling has recently had a surge in popularity," Merl said. "It is an important time for wrestlers because of the community that is forming."

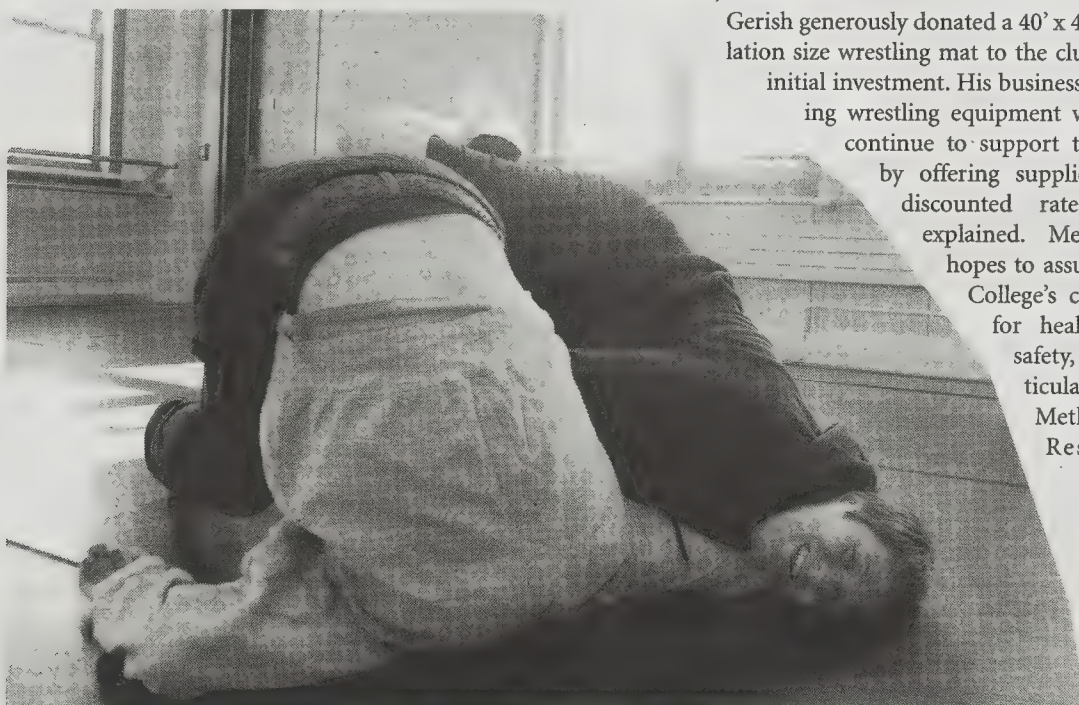
Merl's hope is that the combination of the sport's growing popularity, the additional support from Gerish and the memory of Levkiv will all contribute to the club's success. Carluzzo is equally hopeful.

"Pavlo's time to achieve this particular goal was tragically cut short, but I do fully believe that given a full four years at Middlebury to continue working toward a workable solution, he would have," Carluzzo stated. "It's so nice to learn that this project of his might be carried on in his absence."

— H.Kay Merriman, Features Editor

Lewis Merl '11.5 demonstrates a wrestling pin on the mat. Merl is in the process of founding a wrestling club in Levkiv's honor.

Photo by Laurice Fox



### Spring break '09

See where your friends are soaking up some extra sun, page 14.



### Freedom in busyness

This week's busiest person finds busyness beneficial — find out how, page 15.



### Culinary delight

Midd Sex Guy explores a new ingredient for cooking, page 15.



# Students spread out for spring break

By Margaux Fimbres

STAFF WRITER

While midterm season is in full swing, the College decided to give sleep-deprived students a 10-day break starting this Friday, March 20, with classes resuming on Monday, March 30. On Friday afternoon, College Street will be jam-packed with students loading up cars with friends in the passenger seats, the occasional textbook somewhere in the back and dirty laundry in the trunk, ready to flee campus and midterms alike. Spring break comes right before snow showers are predicted to hit Middlebury, to the dismay of some students remaining on campus. Some students making a quick getaway plan on taking advantage of spring break by catching up on sleep, visiting friends from home, enjoying home-cooked meals and frantically searching for summer jobs. Other students, whether on a Middlebury sports team, a community service trip or on vacation with friends and/or family, find themselves breaking out of the usual routine and traveling to exotic destinations.

Drew Waxman '10.5 will be journeying with 10 other members of the Dissipated Eight (D8) to the sunny island of Bermuda. Waxman, who is the business manager of D8 and organizer of the trip, said this will be D8's 21st consecutive spring break trip to Bermuda, and will be his second year participating. According to Waxman, every spring break, D8 lodges at the same hotel (the Fairmont Southampton) and sings at the same restaurants. They have created a bond with the restaurant owners, who feed the a cappella singers after their performances. Waxman and the other members of D8 on the trip will be singing, exploring the island, hiking and hanging out at the beach for one full week.

In response to the question of how this year's spring break trip will be different from last year's, Waxman said, "The group dynamic is always different since there are new members every year. This year we have three new members going and it's a really great bonding experience for the group." Waxman is particularly excited to explore the island and go cliff jumping.

Far away from the sunny beaches of Bermuda, Nick Alexander '09 will be spending a month in Kabul, Afghanistan. Alexander, who is currently studying abroad at Oxford University in the United Kingdom, will be working for Mirwais Yasini, the deputy speaker of the Lower Afghan Parliament and a former minister of counter-narcotics under President Hamid Karzai. Mr. Yasini has recently announced his candidacy for the upcoming presidential elections, to be held in August. Alexander's responsibilities will include speech writing, composing press releases and writing summaries of meetings. Primarily, he will be facilitating Mr. Yasini's interactions with foreign dignitaries, journalists and the international community in preparation for the elections. In the past, Alexander has worked for Afghanistan's embassy to the United States as well as Afghanistan's mission to the United Nations. "This will be my first trip to Kabul and it is one that I am very much looking forward to," Alexander said.

The women's water polo team is headed to train in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., at the Coral Springs Aquatic Complex. Kristen LaPlante '10 is one of 15 players to participate this spring break. "With so many girls, we'll be able to get a lot more quality training than we did with only eleven players last year — not enough to even play a full scrimmage at practice," said LaPlante, who went on last year's training trip as well. The Coral Spring Aquatic Complex is also where Olympic swimmer Dara Torres trains. "We actually met her last year, and supposedly she is back there and training now, so hopefully we can meet her again!" said LaPlante. The women's water polo team will rent a big house right on the water, and will accompany the renters on a yacht cruise on the first night. The team has multiple games scheduled against a club team in Ft. Lauderdale and a team from Florida International University. They train in the morning in an outdoor pool that LaPlante described as "beautiful" and then compete in the evening. Regarding water polo spring break traditions, LaPlante said the team goes out for a fancy dinner, and this year there will be a "fierce, intra-squad Survivor/Amazing Race-type competition." LaPlante can't wait to go to Florida "to be outside all day, even when playing!"

Forrest Orme '09.5 and Richard K. Saunders '09.5 will be leading the Middlebury Mountain Club spring break trip to the Smoky Mountains. First, they will drive to the Tennessee side of the mountains, through Gatlinburg. Along the way, they will stop at Ripley's Believe it or Not Museum and Dollywood (the Dolly Parton theme park) and plan to buy samurai swords. "We will hike until Thursday, climbing Clingman's Dome, meandering the luscious valleys and hopefully staying away from the snow," said Orme. They will then depart from the woods near Cherokee and drive to Asheville, N.C., "for some barbeque, beers and the famous Warren Wilson contra dance." Following what Orme described as "a night of revelry," they will drive to Washington, D.C., to eat omelettes and will return to Middlebury by Saturday.

Christian Gettermann '11 will first drive first to his house in Westchester, N.Y. with five friends and then venture up to Canada to stay at another friend's house near Montreal. Gettermann and his friends will then meet up with two more friends in Montreal and the group of seven will stay in a hostel. He is looking forward to exploring and partying with his friends in Montreal on the last couple of days of break.

Instead of catching up on some rest this break, Hannah Epelbaum '09 will join Hillel on its urban farming community service trip to Savannah, Ga. Epelbaum volunteered with Hillel last year in El Salvador and is looking forward to being a part of Hillel's first trip to Savannah. There are eight students joining Associate Chaplain Rabbi Ira Schiffer to help plant organic gardens in lower-income areas.

"We are doing this project so that people who would otherwise not have access to organic fruits and vegetables have it at their disposal," said Epelbaum. Epelbaum looks forward to the warm weather and "helping people where I can, with a Jewish twist."

Annie Sullivan '10, a member of the track team, will travel to San Diego, Cal. for spring training. Every morning the team will train on a track that overlooks the Pacific coastline and occasionally have lighter workouts in the afternoons. "The training is hard, but we have a considerable amount of free time to lay on the beach, go to the zoo, go shopping, or take a day trip to Joshua Tree National Park in Los Angeles," said Sullivan. Sullivan likes how the trip provides a great bonding experience in uniting the team. The team will compete both Saturdays of spring break and train during the week. According to Sullivan, traditions include trying to consume the "Big Breakfast" from Konos, which is a "massive breakfast platter that takes an enormous appetite to finish," and first-year skits about upperclassmen.

Vincent Blais '11 is jet-setting to London where he will be staying at a friend's family's house near Abbey Road. He is excited to be in a big city and experience London relatively independently. One of Blais' friends from home who has recently studied in London gave him a list of great places to investigate. "I'm probably most excited to eat great food after a couple of months of subsisting on Ross pizza," said Blais.

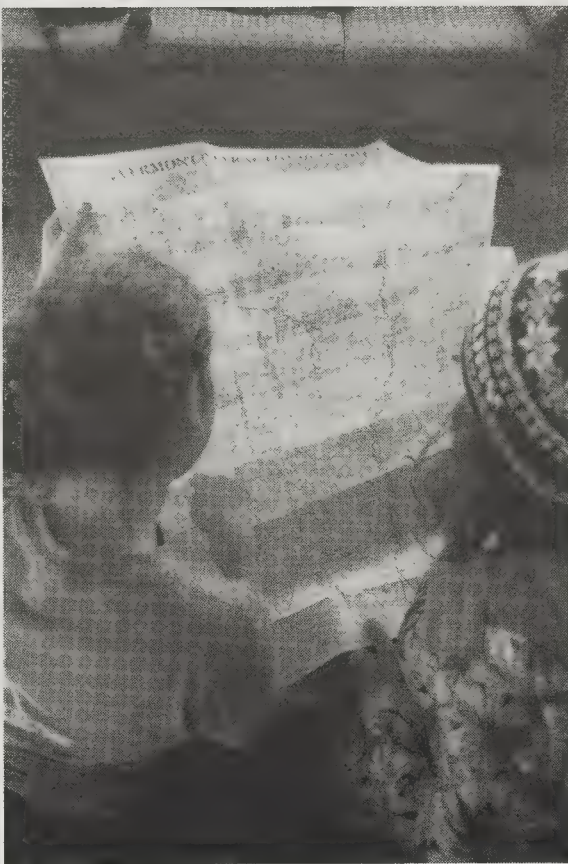
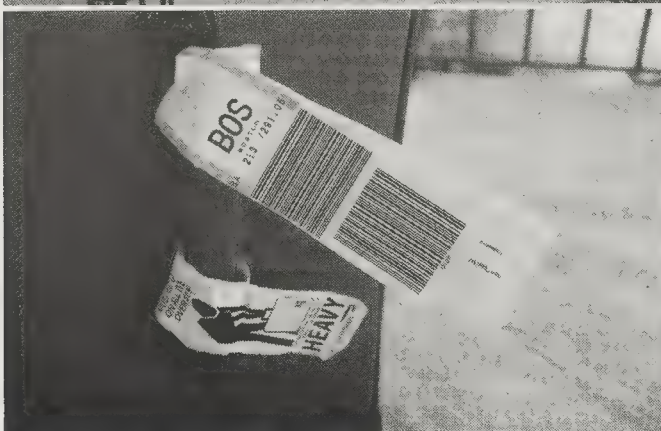
Joining the crew team's annual spring break trip to Lake Lanier, Ga. is Dale Freundlich '10. The crew team spends nine days on Lake Lanier living in houseboats. Every morning, the team catches the sunrise as they practice on the cold lake and are out on the water as the day heats up. Having trained indoors in the "sweat shop" since November, Freundlich said the team is "itching" to get in boats. On Saturday, March 28, the team will wrap up the week's training with a race on the 1996 Olympic Race Course against other teams that are training there as well. The night before the big race, the crew team brings out all of the tables from the houseboats and puts them on the dock for a "pasta feed" for the whole team. One traditional event involves a race with all of the coxswains rowing and a rower in the coxswain's tiny seat. "We have a lot of positive energy and months of hard training going into this trip, so I'm looking forward to see what we can do with the racing season when we get back!" said Freundlich.

For many of these students, a vacation after spring break might be needed. For the rest of us catching up on addictive television shows, catching up with friends or catching some sun, rest up now — because it is only 10 days before it's back to four hours of sleep a night and snow on the ground in March.

## SAFE TIPS

— TIPS FROM JYOTI DANIERE, HEALTH AND WELLNESS EDUCATOR

- 1** Stick with a friend — the one you came on vacation with! Of course you want to meet new people and have fun but never go anywhere alone with someone you just met. Bring along your traveling companion and if possible let another friend know where you are headed.
- 2** Make copies of all important paperwork and keep it in separate locations — a good idea is one copy in your carry-on bag and one copy in your checked luggage. Make sure someone at home has your travel itinerary and a copy of your credit card numbers in case your wallet is stolen. Travelers' cheques are always a good idea.
- 3** Don't put valuables in your checked luggage as most bags are searched and the good stuff often disappears!
- 4** Watch your alcohol intake — plan ahead and know your limits. Use the buddy system when you go out in the evenings.
- 5** Drink water (bottled if necessary — though if you saw "Slumdog Millionaire" you may even have to rethink the whole safe bottled water issue), and eat your veggies ... just because you are on vacation doesn't mean you should subsist on cole slaw and french fries! good food leads to good energy.
- 6** Take along enough needed medications — prescription and over the counter medications — for the duration of your stay. It can be very hard to purchase these items in some countries.
- 7** Wear sunscreen. Invest in a good hat.
- 8** Ask hotel staff where you should and should not wander. Get a good map and know where you are going before you venture out in to the brave new world. Write down the name and address of your hotel and have it your wallet.
- 9** Wash your hands, wash your hands, wash your hands.
- 10** Have fun!



Students plan exciting spring break getaways, packing their bikinis (or snowsuits) and heading for the hills, the beach or home. Whether they will be vacationing with their friends or going home to be with family, a break from schoolwork is much appreciated.

Photographs by Ali Urban



# Students and alum call for action

## Panel suggests strategies to tackle global health issues

By Kaylen Baker  
STAFF WRITER

Middlebury students of all years can be found reading late into the night in McCardell Bicentennial Hall, noses buried deep in physics textbooks. Others keep to their rooms, plastering their walls with sticky notes on the chemical process of cellular respiration. And a small few wake up from terrible dreams, repeating "Apical dendrites, basil dendrites, synaptic terminals..." over and over. These students work rigorously to fulfill their pre-med requirements, hoping to become heart surgeons and anesthesiologists. They want to save lives.

Yet the years spent in medical school and residency often leave students overworked and without a sense of fulfillment. Class of 1998 Middlebury alum Mark Bisanzo, M.D., experienced this fatigue, and felt lost by his third year of residency. Luckily, he had the option of taking an elective month, and he opted to go to Uganda, where he worked at a hospital in Nyakibali.

The quality of health care in the tiny African village astounded him. When people with emergencies such as broken legs needed medical care, they usually walked miles in the mud to get to the hospital, where they were told to wait — for months, in some cases — until they could be treated. The emergency room was ill-equipped and overcrowded and doctors were only sporadically available, with inconsistent training.

In fact, every year in Africa, 10 million people die of preventable deaths —

things like malaria, pneumonia and meningitis, which can be treated with pills and vaccines. Every 30 seconds a child dies of malaria. "Brain drain" is the term used to describe the effect of educated African doc-

gram is based on the U.S. model of medical education and squished into a nine-month period.

Health problems occur everywhere around the globe, yet the quality of treatment is absurdly imbalanced. A simple interest in the medical field has encouraged many Middlebury students to become active in global health, instead of simply getting their pre-med requirements.

Some of these students also spoke of their experiences at the global health panel. One worked with Partners In Health over two Winter Terms. Another did office work on obesity problems, and shared with the audience the fascinating link between obesity and social factors such as education, literacy and income. Another student volunteered in Romania several times helping orphaned children, and then returned and made a documentary to share with American middle schools.

Their words of advice to other students were, "talk to everyone, have an open perspective, get involved and try new things." There are so many ways to improve global healthcare, so if you want to make a difference, think about closing your textbook and getting started somewhere.



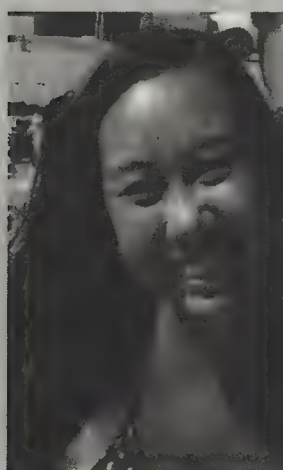
tors leaving their homes to work in the west where they can earn a higher salary and then send the money back to their families.

Since Bisanzo's first trip, he has gone back to Uganda and helped found the Global Emergency Care Collaborative. This program sends a few American doctors at a time to train the local staff in Nyakibali, provide appropriate technology and improve health quality. All of the donations received go directly toward purchasing medical supplies. The new training pro-

## Busiest Person on Campus

by Eric Bartolotti

Profile of  
Kelly Bennion '10



Courtesy

**NOTE:** Kelly and I agreed not to write up a blunt, hard-data list of all the different activities she does. This article is a little different. But believe me, Kelly does an extraordinary amount of stuff. Ask anyone.

While planning the group schedule at a seminar meeting, Kelly Bennion '10 was asked to count on her hands how many activities she did. She counted, but she was short about 15 fingers.

"You don't even have time to breathe," her colleagues said. "You're half-Korean, half-machine." While they were wholly correct on the Korean half, they were only

half-correct on the machine half, for while Kelly has all the productive power of any modern machine, she also has her own mind and her own purpose: two things any machine would be jealous of.

Many busy people are busy because outside forces are pushing or pulling. Some college students want to apply to law school. Overbearing parents want their kids in every club. Distressed people want to fill their free time and forget. Kelly has none of that.

"My parents never signed me up for anything," she said, "except for the first dance class I ever took." Such independence is admirable, especially considering the number of Middlebury students who still have parents hovering around.

This is not to say that Kelly did nothing while under her parents' roof and has just suddenly exploded at college. "It's not that I'm filling a void with things now," she said. "I was like this before Middlebury." (She starts recalling high school memories of theatre, tennis, marching band...)

Without outside forces pushing or pulling, Kelly does things according to her own purpose. She makes this purpose very simple and very clear: "I enjoy everything I do." Classes, activities, work — everything. While this purpose bursts with drops of happy sunshine, it is not exactly profound. Most people should do the things they enjoy. It is a good life philosophy. So what differentiates Kelly from most people? Her freedom from Middlebury's mantra: "work hard, play hard."

"Work hard, play hard" implies that in order to play, we must work. This schism requires us to separate the components of our lives into one of two categories: work or play. We enjoy one and not the other. The difference between work and play is a long discussion, but for Middlebury and Kelly, the following should suffice: work is something we are obligated to do, and play is something we are not obligated to do.

Kelly is free from outside forces in any extracurricular she does, but what about those regular curricular obligations, that is, academics?

"I work ahead a lot," she said. "It's such a good feeling." This sounds like crazy talk, but it comes from a Midd-kid who estimates that she introspects more than half of her peers do. She may be on to something. When working ahead, Kelly reminds herself, "I don't have to be doing this." And that is her secret to a free life. By removing the sense of obligation from her schoolwork, she can appreciate it for whatever it is, for whatever genuinely interesting ideas it offers.

Kelly makes it clear that "we're all adults here at Middlebury." And we are. We are all smart, motivated people. Chances are, we'd enjoy reading that political science book on our own time. But on the night before it's due, we lose that enjoyment in our obligation to get it done. Kelly's structure — Excel spreadsheets included — might not appear to be the ticket to freedom, but because of it, she is always on her "own time."

Certain characteristics of Kelly are unique: the fact that she needs only four hours of sleep, the fact that she can get relaxation out of Riddim — something considered "productive" — rather than get relaxation out of watching an old movie (something considered "unproductive") But her *modus operandi* is completely duplicable. She may have more experience living outside the "work hard, play hard" schism, but it's nothing the rest of us can't learn.

Middlebury could admire Kelly for the metaphorical mountains she moves, or for her daily service to the well-being of society, but such admiration would overlook the true beauty of Kelly's story: her freedom. And not a freedom that comes from disregarding obligations, but one that comes from stepping gracefully above them.

## Midd Sex Guy

by AJ Meyer

Sometimes coming up with something to write about for the sex column is tough. There have been a lot of columns written this year and when I'm hung over and tired on a Sunday afternoon, inspiration is harder to come by. But, this week, I ran across something that caught my eye — a book that my friend told me about entitled *Natural Harvest: A Collection of Semen-Based Recipes*. There is a niche of people ranging from adventurous foodies to curious and mischievous perverts that want to get semen more involved in their food. When you think about it, it's a very readily available ingredient. At least you won't have to scour the supermarket shelves for it or go to some specialty store. Here is the description of the book, from [www.lulu.com](http://www.lulu.com).

Semen is not only nutritious, but it also has a wonderful texture and amazing cooking properties. Like fine wine and cheeses, the taste of semen is complex and dynamic. Semen is inexpensive to produce and is commonly available in many, if not most, homes and restaurants. Despite all of these positive qualities, semen remains neglected as a food. This book hopes to change that. Once you overcome any initial hesitation, you will be surprised to learn how wonderful semen is in the kitchen. Semen is an exciting ingredient that can give every dish you make an interesting twist. If you are a passionate cook and are not afraid to experiment with new ingredients, you will love this cook book!

The best thing about looking up the book was that people have written reviews on the website; many were extremely amusing. These are some of my favorites:

"We raised \$400 for a church during the bake sale because people could not get enough of the cream cheese cookies we made. Thanks, semen cookbook."

"This book really opened up my food vocabulary. I never knew how great these recipes could be. Also, how different they can taste per the person. Mine taste like buffalo. Bravo, author. Bravo!"

"I won't be asking people to come to dinner anymore ... I will be asking them to come AT dinner!!!"

"What the f--- is wrong with you people?" The book and these comments made me think about why so many people find semen so gross, especially the consumption of semen. So many people eat gross stuff like fertilized duck eggs, salmon eggs, tripe, sweet breads, liver and the list goes on and on. But, I know I'd be skeptical about trying any of these semen-heavy recipes. I wonder if the Catholic Church has banned the book yet. I can't imagine what they might think about all this "spilled seed."

Some of the recipes from the book include: "Almost White Russian," "Creamy Cum Crepes," "Man Made Oysters," and "Tuna Sashimi with Dipping Sauce." The book also attempts to provide its users with accurate information about the contents of semen and the ways in which it can be classified in our food pyramid. It's just wild that this book exists and I wanted to point out that you should think twice about the origins of your food. You never know who's got their hands on a copy of this book, and let's hope that it's not a used copy. I know this column has no real value besides shock value now that I'm wrapping it up, but they can't all be winners.

I hope everyone is enjoying the brief stint of warm weather that we're having. It always seems to come around to tease us this time of year. But, some skirts should be out and that's always a beautiful thing. If you're going away for spring break, be safe and don't bring anything too tropical back from your wild times.



## Ben-official

by Ben Benson

Over the past couple weeks I've been getting several suggestions for topics to write about, yet they all seem to share a common theme: "You should look up the nutrition of hard alcohol versus beer." "How much alcohol does it take for any serious side effects?" "Is drinking wine every day good for you?" "Check out the differences of light beer and heavy beer." These are all valid suggestions, and I'm pretty sure my ninth grade health teacher did a great job covering them, though I don't know how many of us listened. So for all you 21+ folks, I decided to look up what might be a few more employable hangover remedies.

First off, identifying your specific hangover symptoms is the key to recovery. Most common symptoms include fatigue, headaches, nausea, thirst, sweating, dizziness and irritability. (Unfortunately, your sore throat and stuffy nose are more likely from sharing a Solo cup with half the party than from alcohol.) Fatigue is due to the disruption of sleep that alcohol causes by severely limiting REM sleep, the time you spend dreaming. Headaches and dizziness come from both dehydration — which alcohol causes by increasing urinary production (see: toilet seat, bathroom floor, trashcan, roommate's bureau) — and from low blood sugar levels. Energy for the brain comes from glucose, and alcohol consumption depletes the body's stores of accessible glucose.

Though it might not always be feasible, a great way to decrease a hangover is to think ahead before going to sleep. Consuming water or an electrolyte-filled beverage, like a sports drink, before bed can replenish blood sugar and help with dehydration. Also, both vitamins C and B before bed are helpful. Vitamin C speeds up the body's alcohol breakdown process by stimulating the liver and vitamin B helps speed up the body's carbohydrate metabolic rate — alcohol is all carbs. Good accessible sources of vitamin B are bananas, eggs, chili peppers, whole grains and potatoes. So if you can remember to consume chili peppers, a couple of oranges, a Gatorade and a liter of water before bed, then good for you.

If not, there are a few things you can do to help recovery the next day. Vitamins B and C, sports drinks and water will still help the next morning, and getting back to full hydration will ease the headache. In addition, eating bland foods such as crackers or multigrain toast can help settle stomach nausea. Many people suggest aspirin in the morning to ease a headache, but it could cause further nausea as aspirin is a known stomach irritant.

Depending on the severity of your hangover, a few cups of caffeinated beverages may break you free from irritability and fatigue; just make sure to drink water in addition to stay hydrated. On the other hand, if you're in a real rough state, avoid the caffeine and try to catch up on some sleep. Also, mineral-rich foods like pickles help replenish the body, and tomato juice is a good morning beverage as it contains a type of sugar that helps metabolize alcohol more quickly.

The most popular remedy that I came across during my extensive internet research is a simple banana milkshake. The exact ingredients vary slightly but the main idea is bananas for vitamin B, milk to soothe the stomach, and honey to replenish blood sugar. Also, getting up and either exercising or going for a walk, though it might sound terrible at the time, will get blood flowing and speed up your body's breakdown of the remaining toxins.

I hope you don't have to use any of these techniques, but nobody wants to be hungover while sitting on the beach during spring break.

## Speaker nourishes health discussion

By Jamie Studwell

STAFF WRITER

As part of last week's Global Health Symposium, renowned epidemiologist Dr. Alfred Sommer of the Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health gave an informal lecture on his research into the health benefits of vitamin A treatment in children of developing countries. Ophthalmology is Sommer's primary focus, but he is one of few eye doctors that can say his research has saved thousands, maybe even millions, of lives.

In the 1980s, Sommer took up the mantle of vitamin A research, growing a concern for its apparent connection with youth blindness. During his first trial, studying rates of mild and severe eye problems connected to vitamin A deficiency in Indonesia, he inadvertently stumbled upon a much larger correlation between vitamin A and mortality rates. The data revealed that many patients disappeared in the six months between Sommer's visits. Subsequent studies revealed that the more deficient a child was, the greater his or her likelihood of dying.

His research has, from its inception, been called "too ambitious" and his results "too good to be true," but Sommer has pushed for scientific consensus and is finally seeing results. Sommer's research indicates that the cumulative mortality rates of children receiving just a single dose of vitamin A every four to six months is on average 30 percent lower than those who do not receive treatment. This

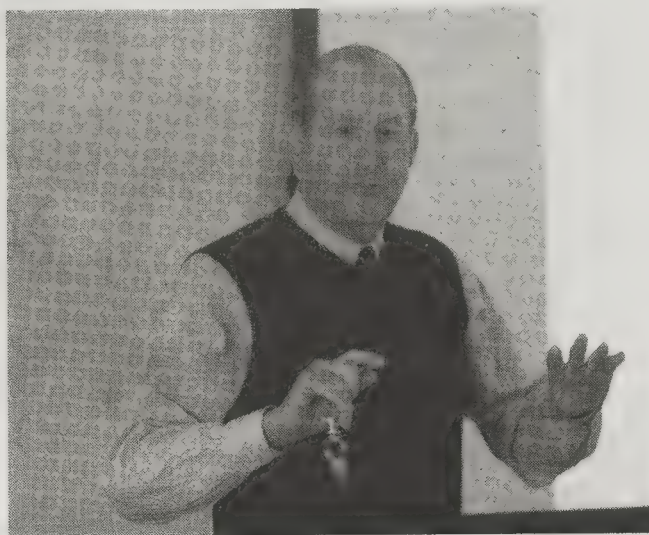
staggering statistic means that vitamin A treatment, which is one of the most cost effective treatments available at only \$23 per death averted, is capable of preventing between one and 2.5 million deaths each year caused by illnesses related to the deficiency, such as diarrhea and the measles.

In a discussion after the conclusion of Sommer's formal lecture, two burning questions remained to be discussed: how does a scientist like Sommer reconcile himself morally with the fact that he is providing treatment for only half of his patients, and what is the source of this rampant vitamin A deficiency in developing countries? Sommer parried the moral question posed by with a scientist's pure rationality.

"I conduct research," he said. The only way to procure funding for treatments that have not yet yielded effective results is to conduct a research experiment, explained Sommer. Without the control group that does not receive medicine, it would be impossible to measure the results of the trial and thereby turn research into policy change. One must focus on the people receiving treatment in the name of research that would not have otherwise.

Sommer also claims that the title of the lecture was a

misnomer because carrots are actually part of the problem. Vitamin A deficiency is linked not only to undernutrition in developing countries, but also to one's diet. While you or I receive our vitamin A from animal products, the diet of leafy vegetables and fruit consumed in Indonesia supplies children with beta carotene, which is metabolized into vitamin A at the extremely low rate of 21:1. This means that the children are physically incapable of ingesting enough vitamin A, and their diets must therefore be supplemented. Dr. Sommer insists that this is not just a case of changing nutritional habits, but a full-scale need for humanitarian efforts.



Jessica Appelson

Dr. Alfred Sommer presented research on vitamin A deficiency.



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## winners&amp;losers

## New faces

Eager-looking prospective students are swarming the College in hopes of making a final choice of schools.

## New Facebook

The confusing new layout and lengthy loading process have made "stalking" nearly impossible.

## J. Crew

Thanks, Michelle Obama, for making preppy cool for those on the left wing.

## J-term

The new limits on course releases beg the question: "What will happen to 'Yay' Term?"

## Spring weather

Once the temperature breaks 40 degrees, we are reminded why the grassy quad behind Battell is called "the beach."

## Spring homework

Who can motivate themselves to do reading when there are scantily clad coeds running around in the sunshine?

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## Article by Andrew Throdahl Photography by Andrew Ngeow

Over the past two years, I have occasionally found myself double-tasking at performing arts series concerts, working as the page-turner as well as the critic. The artists have never known about my agency with *The Middlebury Campus* — as far as they know I am just a fledgling dot-follower, not an analyst scrutinizing their every gesture both backstage and onstage. Alas, last Friday evening my secret was leaked, and the artists — German violinist Arabella Steinbacher and Latvian pianist Robert Kulek — confronted me about my undercover operation.

"You cheat," taunted Kulek, "you better say nice things about us!"

Leak or not, I really and truly can only think of nice things to say about both artists. The concert was one of those events that thoroughly alters your disposition and makes you feel as if all of your obligations, like writing concert reviews, are utterly arbitrary. After the concert I wanted to barge in on some students practicing the corrosively monotonous song "Clocks" and ask how they were not devastated by simply being in the aura of brilliance. But I didn't.

Steinbacher and Kulek's exhausting program was built on odd pairings. The first half juxtaposed Beethoven's bubbly eighth violin sonata with Schnittke's frantic first. The second half heard an equally unusual alliance: the spiritual Bach Chaconne and the cosmopolitan Ravel sonata. While these pieces did not agree with each other, per se, they did create a balance that is sometimes missing in the usual chronological progression from Baroque to Classical to Romantic to Modern.

The attention to the architecture of the program was paralleled by structural know-how in the performance. Every piece, movement and phrase was distinguished by an appropriate

character and timbre. Within the Beethoven one felt like each movement had its own personality, while not straying tastelessly from the work's over-arching character.

The duo seemed to milk as much charm from the Beethoven as they could. Kulek's wit and technical finesse let him get away with some harsh attacks, particularly in the third movement. From the start, Steinbacher's playing was clean, energetic and colorful.

For many audience members the highlight of the evening was probably Schnittke's profane first sonata. The artists were undaunted by the work's debauchery, and certainly gave the many crazed, brazen passages their all, but they still exercised the necessary control to make the piece comprehensible. Kulek set a steady tempo for the faster movements, which ultimately added to the excitement. Steinbacher's harmonics at the end of the third movement were so precise that they eerily silenced all coughing and seat-shifting. The violin's cadenza in the fourth movement, signaled by a deafening cluster in the piano, was so rigorously exact, yet still expressive, that it made me think she would play a terrific Berg concerto (which, I later learned, is indeed part of her repertoire).

Steinbacher did beautiful things to Bach's Chaconne, the famous final movement of the Partita No. 2 in D minor for unaccompanied violin. It is rare to hear the distinct moods of the work played with dogmatic contrapuntal detail. She shifted from a coarse treatment of the opening quadruple-stops to a thinner, bleaker tone in many of the interior episodes. The overall result was a part headstrong, part haunting Chaconne, both studied and enterprising.

As she arrived backstage after that winning performance

she outrageously exclaimed, "Terrible!"

One thing that was missing from the unaccompanied Chaconne was Kulek's singing. Throughout the Beethoven especially, the pianist could not help but hum, murmur and warble his way through his favorite parts. This quirk seemed to be symptomatic of his ardor for the music, like his habit of throwing his hands in his lap and turning impetuously to his partner during pauses, and can therefore only be excused, if not embraced.

To close the evening, Kulek rejoined Steinbacher for a successful Ravel Sonata. After the 15-minute Chaconne, Steinbacher was still amazingly energetic. Both lucidly commanded the work's economic textures, and held back until virtually the last bars. The "Blues" movement must be one of the most bizarre pieces in Ravel's output, in the same vein as the opera "L'enfant et les sortilèges," and Kulek especially took advantage of the movement's capricious possibilities. The "perpetual motion" finale was a fitting finish for two well-matched virtuosi.

As an encore, the duo played the ultimate in nostalgic kitsch, "Estrellita" by Manuel Ponce, arranged by Jascha Heifetz, and then called it a night.

Kulek was an impressive and enthusiastic performer, but the real star of the evening was the 28-year-old Steinbacher. She seems to possess the simplicity of purpose that is often the hallmark of great artists. Hers is a solemn and direct artistry, rather than a self-conscious one. The pianist Martha Argerich once said in an interview, "One must try to achieve directness with music," and Steinbacher is equipped with all the technique and poise to make music incomparably forthright to every audience she plays for.

### editors' picks

# 19

**Now What?!  
McCullough Social  
Space**  
8 p.m.

Join guest electronic musician Sandy Nordahl for an evening of electronically altered traditional instruments. Nordahl is a composer, bassist and recording engineer who teaches at the University of Northern Iowa.

# 19

**Johannes  
Quartet  
MCFA**  
7:30 p.m.

This elite string quartet, which regularly performs as part of the Chamber Music Society of Philadelphia, plays a program ranging from Bartók to Schubert.

# 19

**Deep Banana  
Blackout  
Higher Ground**  
8 p.m.

Up in South Burlington, Deep Banana Blackout offers an homage to funk rock, balanced by the dance grooves of the Dawson Leary Project.

# 20

**Phil the Agony,  
Cheeks Dance  
Higher Ground**  
8:30 p.m.

Just a hop, skip and a jump up Rt. 7, check out this showcase of young hip-hop groups, led by Phil the Agony, of Strong Arm Steady, and accompanied by Cheeks Dance Crew.





## for the record

by Alex Blair

U2, once again, is the biggest band in the world. In the first week of March, the boys from Ireland were featured on the cover of *Rolling Stone*, performed a five-day gig on Letterman and released their latest album, "No Line On The Horizon." The LP reached number one both in the U.K. and the U.S., suggesting that U2's popularity hasn't waned a bit since their last album dropped in 2004. Unfortunately, while they maintain their dominance of the mainstream music scene around the world, their music has suffered some. Media outlets and music publications claim that "No Line On The Horizon" is the band's best album since 1991's "Achtung Baby," but I'd say it's not nearly as good as their underrated '04 release, "How To Dismantle An Atomic Bomb."

While recording the album, the band stated that "No Line" would be a more experimental record than their previous rock-oriented works. With superstar producers Brian Eno and Daniel Lanois on the helm again (they produced "Achtung Baby" and U2's masterpiece and the best album of the 1980s, "The Joshua Tree"), the prospect of another great U2 album seemed promising. There are some signs of the sonic textures of Eno and Lanois on this record, but they are buried in the background, allowing the Edge's ringing guitar and Adam Clayton's rolling bass to take center stage. This album sounds very familiar, however. It sounds just like every other U2 release this decade. Sometimes that can be a good thing. After all, their trademark sound is partly responsible for making them so hugely successful, but mostly, this time around, it comes off trite and dull.

The record begins on a positive note with the energized title track. Once again, Bono proves that he is the master of wailing "oh-oh-ohs" at the top of his lungs (take that, Chris Martin!) as he bellows them all over this song. "No Line On The Horizon" has a thumping bass, chiming guitars and a catchy chorus; it's quintessential U2, and, for the most part, it works. The next song, "Magnificent," somehow sounds even more like a U2 song than "No Line On The Horizon" does. With similar musicality to the previous track and a chorus like "Only love, only love can leave such a mark/But only love, only love can heal such a scar," its catchiness is the only thing that saves it from being completely dismissible.

The album's greatest achievement is "White As Snow." This song is a soft, meditative ballad about a dying soldier in Afghanistan. It is the cleanest break from the traditional U2 sound, incorporating gentle keyboards, a lightly plucked acoustic guitar and beautiful harmonies. "White As Snow" represents the emotional core of the album, and it shows that the lads still have what it takes to write an affecting song. If only they had written more tracks like this, the album might have had a chance.

If you purchase the album off iTunes, you'll receive the song "No Line On The Horizon (2)" as a bonus track. This version is basically the same as the original, but with a little more guitar distortion and less Eno/Lanois production tricks. Still, this song is very good, which, when you think about it, is probably a bad thing. What does it say about an album when two of its highlights are the same song? Sameness is everywhere on "No Line On The Horizon." Hopefully for their next release, U2 will be a little more adventurous and experimental. If not, their reign as kings of the music world might be nearing its end.

# Documentaries draw new genre lines

By Dana Walters  
STAFF WRITER

While the label "animated documentary" might sound contradictory, almost to the point of seeming oxymoronic, Professor of Japanese Studies Carole Cavanaugh argues that it might embody the most honest version of the documentary genre yet. In her stimulating lecture, "Drawing on Truth: Animated Documentaries from Japan, Iran and Israel," she drew on the film "Waltz with Bashir," Ari Folman's account of trying to recapture his memories from the 1982 Lebanon War, as evidence for the subgenre's exclusive relationship with the concept of "truth" — an idea masquerading as objective and concrete, but that holds more ambiguity than any animated documentary ever could. Indeed, "Waltz with Bashir," a powerful dive into one man's psyche, confirms for a skeptical audience that the "animated documentary" has arrived.

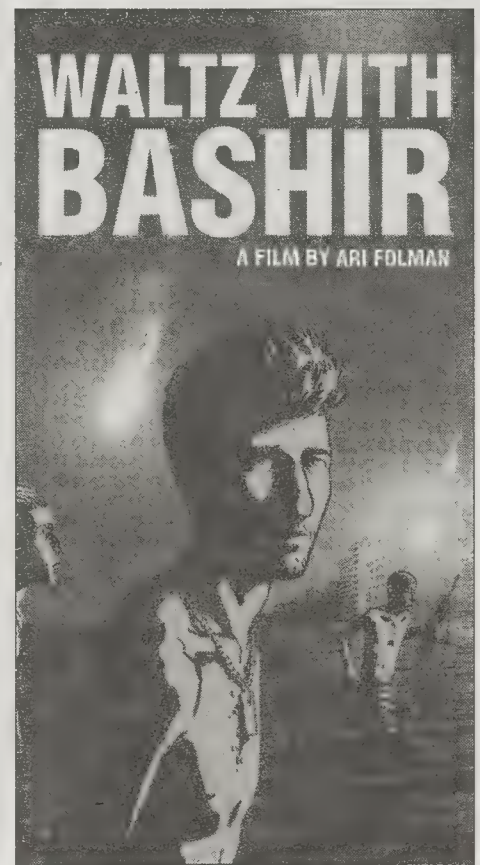
Cavanaugh began reconsidering her conception of the animated film, and of the documentary itself, after viewing "Waltz With Bashir." In her lecture, she commented on other films, like the 1951 children's educational animated film "Duck and Cover," a piece composed with the purpose of teaching children how to respond to an atomic attack, and Errol Morris's 1988 documentary "The Thin Blue Line," which uses extensive recreation to simulate the story of a contested murder. Both of these films fall within the realm of animation, which is only considered permissible for children, and within the realm of documentary, which many believe is only permissible using a "photographic" reality. Cavanaugh, however, contended that with "Waltz with

Bashir" entering into the Oscar race — and subsequently the mainstream paradigm of the film world — perhaps the general public is ready for serious animation like the Japanese have been using for years.

In addition to "Bashir," her lecture also referenced "Persepolis," a film based on Marjane Satrapi's graphic novel about her experience growing up during the Iranian revolution, and "Barefoot Gen," a true account of the Hiroshima atomic explosion. All three films confront the problematic representation of national trauma — a difficult conception to grasp because of how it resurrects itself within people's memories. The animated style, therefore, becomes not only a more honest way to represent these stories of mass death and hardship, but furthermore offers improvement over the old style of photographic "reality" of documentation due to its ability to extrapolate into the fantastical and subjective tunnels of the mind.

Cavanaugh, with wit and conversational ease, turned her lecture into a seminar. Leaving more than adequate time for questions, she merely introduced the motivation behind the "animated documentary," and suggested a discussion of its uses in filmmaking instead of presenting a serious and authoritative conclusion upon her research. Although just barely breaking the surface of the style, its history and its current status, Cavanaugh did more than enough to pique the audience's interests, making those in attendance reconsider their own notions of what a documentary should be.

Part of the problem with documentaries, Cavanaugh explained, is that the audience already holds genre expectations. By the end of her lecture, she had made clear that the



Courtesy

shifting paradigm that has come with the arrival of "Waltz with Bashir" is one that can make way for a better type of documentary — one in which the audience understands that the truth of movies is always subjective, no matter the genre. Animation, in its ability to stretch the bounds of reality, gives rise to this necessary skepticism — an emotion that should be present at the watching of any film, especially a documentary.

# Spring concerts offer a buffet of genres

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

not think the agent was aware of the holiday when the date was proposed. As there were no other dates available, the committee had to look into other options. Other groups considered included Vampire Weekend, MGMT and Bon Iver, but according to Rosen, they just "didn't work out that well."

"A lot of people don't realize that it's not easy bringing people to Vermont," Rosen said. "A lot of artists don't want to go anywhere unless it's a big paycheck-type venue."

This year, MCAB did not issue an all-campus survey with the final choices for the spring concert, relying instead on student input given earlier in the year via an overarching survey issued in the fall. Rather than giving students the choice between a handful of artists, the survey asked students what type of events and genres they would like to see brought to campus.

"Doug and I worked together to plan a survey that would focus on types of concerts, rather than giving three choices, and saying, 'pick one,' which sort of leaves MCAB stuck in a box," said President of MCAB Ali Levy '09.

Both Levy and Rosen discussed the problems that school-wide surveys create, one being that any student who is part of an organization and has the password to the survey program could log on and check the results, leading to potential controversy surrounding the vote, much like last year's Third Eye Blind and Cake debate.

"This is one of the reasons that we try not to use names now," said Rosen, "because when it falls through, people get upset. Last year, it blew up in our face. The margin was in favor of Third Eye Blind, but in the end, it just was not economically feasible to bring them to campus," something that, according to Rosen, the

previous MCAB leaders did not realize until the vote had taken place.

Rosen pointed out that another problem with all-campus surveys of that nature is their ability to "polarize" the campus.

"Even though Cake was one of our most successful events," Rosen said, "we had a large number of irate students who were upset that their activity fee was going towards something they didn't like. Being on Concerts [Committee], you really walk that fine line."

"Since we didn't do a survey," Rosen said, "it might come off as though we don't care what students want, but we do gauge student interest." Rosen explained that the committee receives "tons" of e-mails with suggestions, and students have also come forward with suggestions.

"We've only turned down one student suggestion this year," Rosen said, and only because it would have cost too much.

Rosen, Levy and Adams all expressed their hope that the increased number of smaller concerts would help appeal to the diverse musical tastes of the student body.

"[Having 10 concerts instead of one] allows us to cover more genres and appeal to a wider variety of musical tastes and hopefully make a lot of students happy," Adams said. "Before, with performers such as Wyclef, Cake and Guster, students would say, 'that's not my music.' This way we can offer a wider variety."

To appeal to a wide range of students, MCAB has continued to team up with WRMC to bring a variety of musical genres to campus. Two WRMC representatives sit on the Concerts Committee, and Sepomena comes out of the joint concerts budget. This year, two Sepomenas will be held, one on April 10 showcasing student groups, in addition to the traditional, professional Sepomena which will take place on the 17th.

"We decided to do a student Sepomena because we wanted to give bands a venue," said WRMC Business Manager Dave Small '09. "At things like Pub Night you seem to get the same bands again and again."

Small said that Bearplane's Philippe Bronchtein '10 has agreed "by word of mouth" to play the student version of the event, and he is in the process of securing Fat Baby, along with others. Small said that they are trying to avoid asking the bands that play a lot, in an attempt to get lesser known groups heard.

"Our sort of mantra is to play music in the Champlain Valley that wouldn't be heard otherwise," Small said. This mantra holds true for not only the radio station and student Sepomena, but for the professional groups that WRMC books, as well. The idea, Small said, is to get bands before they make it big.

Sepomena 2009 will host The Death Set, a fusion band blending electronica, hip-hop and punk on a shared bill with Tobacco, notorious for tracks heavy on the synth and intense, bowel-vibrating beats.

"This year the MCAB show wasn't as big as usual, which left us some extra money," Small said. "As we've seen this year, this can really work to our advantage. It's nice to be able to voice our opinion, especially because half the time it seems like we're just arguing down groups like Third Eye Blind."

Along with the two separate concerts, the WRMC General Board hopes to host a Sepomena after-party at the Bunker on April 18, where they hope to have an additional DJ set.

"Our main objective is to get more listeners on campus," said Small. "We really want to get more students listening, and we want people to realize that the radio is not just for DJs, but for all students."

Small also mentioned that the station will be giving out duck-shaped radios as a means of promoting the April concerts in the upcoming weeks.

"We want to get our friends to come," he said, "and maybe even put on 91.1 FM."



# Senior theatre work issues play on power

By Emma Stanford  
ARTS EDITOR

Saturday's closing performance of "F\*ckpigs and C\*ckroaches" started slowly, as would-be audience members were escorted into Hepburn Zoo to find extra crannies to occupy. For some, this was their second or third time seeing the show since its opening on Thursday; they were drawn repeatedly to its superb acting and tense depiction of the darker sides of humanity.

"F\*ckpigs and C\*ckroaches: A Meditation on Power," the senior work of Director Jeanine Buzali '09, melds together scenes from plays by Harold Pinter, Naomi Wallace and others. The scope is wide, ranging from American soldiers in the Kuwaiti desert to the interrogation rooms of an unnamed oppressive dictatorship. The constant in this stew of violence and lies is the distorting, brutalizing effect of one human being's power over another.

It's perhaps a good thing that Buzali cut and pasted scenes from various plays into this collage. A full-length version of any of the scenes could have been tiresome. In the scenes from Harold Pinter's "One for the Road," a passive-aggressive megalomaniac (Christo Grabowski '12) ranted at broken-down political criminals on subjects ranging from the rush of killing to the beauty of his victim's wife to the quality of the scotch he was drinking. This was interesting for a while, as the audience got an insight into the mind of a man with absolute power over other people, but there wasn't enough range to the performance for it to remain interesting. By the time we saw him interrogate the first victim's wife, shaking a little too theatrically as she stood before him, there seemed to be nothing more to say.

Fortunately, the variety of scenes kept the play moving quickly. We saw a pair of American soldiers in Kuwait, learning from a superior how to access their anger and use it against the enemy. We saw a tight-jawed official (Katie Thacher '11) rebuke another woman (Chantia Harper '12) for showing her ankles, saying



Grace Duggan, Photo Editor

On Saturday night, six Middlebury students performed a series of scenes showing the frightening impact of power on human actions in Jeanine Buzali's senior work "F\*ckpigs and C\*ckroaches." Heavy-handed at times, the piece was propped up by effective acting and a quick pace.

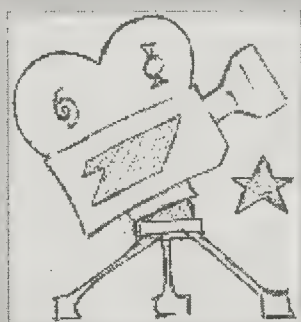
of her need to dress provocatively, "You continually subvert that man's right to be a simple person! You oppress him!" In both scenes, the line between sanity and psychosis blurred: was the insane woman the one denying human sexuality or the one defined by it? The line was further blurred in a later scene, in which an American family in Rwanda, housing a Tutsi refugee, shoved him forward like a sacrificial lamb rather than have their daughter hurt by a Hutu militant. "Do we matter to you at all?" the Hutu asked, his machine gun still leveled to fire. In an unexpected and compelling twist, the villain of the show became not violence or

hatred, but old-fashioned American selfishness.

In the final scene, a nervous overalled artist (Michelle Alto '12) adjusted the pose of a living model (Grabowski) while her surly, cigar-wielding mentor (Ekow Edzie '10) criticized. When she timidly suggested that the model make a strong gesture, Edzie berated her for being too obvious: "Do you have to spell everything out?" I wondered the same thing about "F\*ckpigs and C\*ckroaches." Did they have to dress this living model in a black torture victim's hood? Did the woman under interrogation have to be so visibly trembling?

Did we need so many juxtapositions of scotch-sipping psychopaths and broken-down prisoners, so many juxtapositions of "Ave Maria" with machine-gun fire? And why, after all, did the man's cigar keep going out? Was it only so he could scream "Light!" at the artist and make her scurry to offer a Zippo?

Still, "F\*ckpigs and C\*ckroaches" bravely confronted the ugly side of human nature. The last moment, in which Grabowski as the model finally became animated and gave the audience a deadened stare before the lights went down, proved simple and powerful. And while there could have been more such moments, there were enough. The ensemble's superb acting and Buzali's directing more than made up for any heavy-handedness of the subject matter.



## THE REEL CRITIC

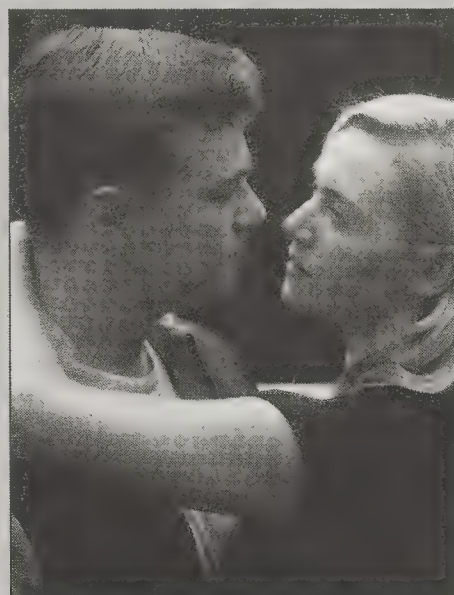
by Jason Gutierrez

**MOVIE | Revolutionary Road**  
**DIRECTOR | Sam Mendes**  
**STARRING | Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet**

Confession time. I haven't seen "Revolutionary Road" since I first saw it during the first week of February (thanks, Middlebury College, for letting students get first crack at those seats in Dana for the screening this past Sunday). Normally that would make it tough to review, but "Revolutionary Road" was one of the more striking, not to mention best, films released last year. It marks a return on several fronts. First, and most oft-noted, it is the return of Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet, who reteam for the first time since "Titanic." It also marks the return of director Sam Mendes to suburbia, the setting where he first made his auspicious debut with 1999's "American Beauty." "Revolutionary Road," based on the 1961 novel by Richard Yates, tells the story of Frank and April Wheeler who, in the midst of a blissful romance, move to the suburbs. They tell themselves the move is only temporary, but soon find they are trapped in their mar-

riage, job (in his case), housework (in hers) and suburbs. They find themselves yearning for an escape from the slow descent into middle-aged mediocrity. "A man only gets a few chances in life. It won't be long before he's sittin' around wondering how he got to be second rate," Frank's boss (played by the spectacular Jay O. Sanders) tells him over lunch. Soon affairs and promotions take the place of plans for liberation as the couple spirals even deeper into their suburban prison.

"Revolutionary Road" has in spades what was infuriatingly missing from almost every other film released in 2008: a simmering, quiet desperation and anger. There is a palpable sense, intentional or not, of rage at an America that places conformity and white-collar success as the pinnacle of working life. The film's style is cold, almost clinical in its analysis of this crumbling marriage. Mendes has moved far from "American Beauty," where his warm, forgiving style gave the audience shelter from the on-screen cynicism. Here, though, his detachment gives the audience no respite from the intense emotions on display. It doesn't give the actors any place to hide, either. Kate Winslet turns in an excellent performance, which is par for the course for her recently. Her performance, though, has the added benefit of pushing DiCaprio into territory where he has never been before. That awards weren't given to him by the barrelful is a travesty as he turns in, hands down, the best performance of the year. He puts on a smug façade at points, but the genius of DiCaprio's performance is that he allows the audience the ability to tell that, beneath the sleek veneer, he is really a vulnerable man-child, caught between his desire to play grown-up and his need to break out. Rarely is an actor as vulnerable onscreen as DiCaprio is during parts of "Revolutionary Road," and it's truly breathtaking. The casting of DiCaprio and Winslet was a stroke of brilliance, as the pair trade in on their popu-



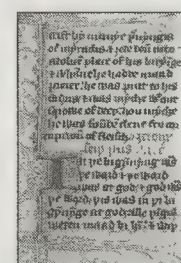
Courtesy

lar appeal as built by the hulking mess that was "Titanic." This is the other side of that "Titanic" coin, though. It's tough to not see this as the natural conclusion of that relationship. The couple survives "Titanic" only to find themselves on "Revolutionary Road."

"Revolutionary Road" could have easily fallen into that ever-popular category of melodrama that revels in demonizing suburban life, but Mendes and screenwriter Justin Haythe manage to sidestep potential pratfalls by ensuring that these characters aren't cheap caricatures. They are real people. They drink, they smoke and most importantly, they bleed. This is a tough film to sit through. It takes the audience to places it might not want to go as they shudder with recognition at their relationships or those of their parents. "Revolutionary Road" is not easy and provides no easy escape or answers. But when a film poses failing marriages and characters consciously wasting potential, where are the easy answers? Besides, no great films are easy.

## Suggestion Box

From our bookshelves, iPods and laptops to your Thursday morning breakfast table, here are our recommendations for the best of recent culture.



**The Gospel of John**  
It's not new, but it's interesting. Go back to the foundation of Western civilization and poke holes in it. John's gospel is the difficult middle child of the New Testament. It's morbid, convoluted and fatalistic, and even if you're not in a religion studies class, it's still impressive quoting fodder for your next existential debate.

— Emma Stanford



**Bell Orchestre**  
"As Seen Through Windows"  
Arts and Crafts, 2009  
Reconstructed pieces of Montreal's The Arcade Fire, Bell Orchestre is suitably complex. Their first album, "Recording a Tape the Colour of Light," was nominated for a JUNO award, and the follow-up, "As Seen Through Windows," spins even stronger, blending computerized and organic sounds to create instrumentation that is urbanite yet still beautiful. The absence of lyrics also bypasses the unfortunate "poetry" that burdened much of 2007's "Neon Bible."

— Melissa Marshall





# Spotlight on... Justin Haythe '96

**The Middlebury Campus:** First, what attracted you to the novel ("Revolutionary Road" by Richard Yates)?

Justin Haythe: I'd read the novel with a novelist's hat on first. Then I was approached by the BBC for an adaptation, and it is a very filmic book in certain ways. So I felt that it could be done justice because it is a great literary novel, which rarely makes a great movie, but I felt there was something cinematic and dramatic about it, inherently. There was a kind of mystery

posed as to, I mean, literally in the novel the two people are by the side of the road screaming at each other about which one of them is trapped in the marriage, and the film is posing the question: which one is it that is trapped? I had a couple stipulations, I just wanted to make sure they were going to do the abortion and they were going to drink and smoke as much as they do in the book. It's a pretty unlikely piece of business in Hollywood. They don't usually crack into books that are that heavy, that dark. So I leapt at the opportunity.

**TC:** Can you just take me through the production and how it got started. You said you were approached by the BBC.

JH: I was approached by the BBC and I wrote a draft. Kate Winslet, who shares the same agency as I do, read the draft and became attached as an actress, which is rare, but Kate is someone with great instincts, and we, together, explored different director possibilities. Clearly she was doing what she could at home to convince Sam Mendes, her husband, to direct. He became involved and about six months later Leo (DiCaprio) became involved and then we were in production almost immediately.

**TC:** What was your level of involvement during production?

JH: I was at rehearsals, there were three weeks of rehearsals, and he (Mendes) really ran it like a theater company. There was a rehearsal every day, and I was on set every day, which is pretty rare. Sometimes it was thrilling and great. Sometimes not. Film sets are very charged places and in many ways the writer is useless there until he is required.

**TC:** I know that Sam comes from a background in theater, and in theater the playwright is paramount, so were there many changes made to the script (during the course of production)?

JH: Yeah, the difference between writing a book and writing a screenplay is that it's very much alive until the very end, that's part of the pleasure of it. And it evolves through the editing process, which is very different. You may edit a play during rehearsal but you don't edit the final product. In some ways (film) isn't a writer's medium for that reason, it's much more a director's or an editor's medium than it is a writer's or an actor's medium.

**TC:** What were some of the problems that you were confronted with while adapting a work that is as well respected as *Revolutionary Road* is?

JH: There is a devoted following, and the most common comment I got was people coming up and saying, "Whatever you do, don't f\*\*\* it up." That was their note. [Laughs] The big challenge was that you can't try and do the novel, because movies are much closer to short stories in shape than they are to novels, so I had to pick something about the novel. One of the great strengths of the novel are the interior words of these characters, it's largely what this book is about. That was a real challenge, especially finding a way to dramatize how these people miss each other, and what they wish they had said. That was the most obvious challenge.

**TC:** I know that your first film, *The Clearing*, was an original story done by you and director Pieter Jan Brugge. Can you talk about the differences between working on an original idea versus working on an adaptation?

JH: For one thing, the film business is much more comfortable with an adaptation, because there is a feeling that we can look at the object in front of us and generally agree, "We want it (the movie) to look something like that." There are different kinds of novels. Richard Yates' novel is one that you live with throughout the process, because it is so cinematic in certain ways and so well dramatized. He is a kind of master at dramatic writing, down to staging and dialog. And you use as much of it as you possibly can. But at the same time as you have a guide, there are also some constraints; whereas preparing an original story there are no constraints. You can follow the story wherever it goes. I was not going to even begin to entertain changing certain parts of this book. It's not the kind of novel where you combine characters or change the ending. It's not doable.

**TC:** While reflecting on both *The Clearing* and *Revolutionary Road* I felt like both films were, to a certain extent, a critique of the American dream. Was that something you were conscious of while writing the films?

JH: No, it's interesting because I think that *Revolutionary Road*, in many ways, missed the zeitgeist. When we began the process there weren't as many people who were dying for a dead-end corporate job and a house in the suburbs. I mean, 6,000 people a month are losing their jobs and it's a different moment. And so, I don't think it was any kind of conscious attack on the American dream. I think that there are definite similarities between the two stories in the sense that people felt that they were promised something and when they get to the finish line they find that it wasn't really the way it was described, at least it doesn't feel that way. I think class is a preoccupation of mine, especially because it's supposed to be invisible in America.

**TC:** One of the more interesting characters was John Givings (played by Academy Award nominee Michael Shannon). It's a brilliant performance, and the character walks a fine line between being comedic and tragic. I imagine it was one of the more difficult roles to write.

JH: Well, John Givings, more than any other character, I took as much of Yates' dialog as I possibly could. I think that, potentially, John Givings is the most creaky device in the book; the brilliant mad man who speaks the truth. In a way he speaks what the author wants to say. I think that he survives partly because of Michael Shannon's brilliant performance and Sam Mendes' direction. It can very easily seem like a device, but it doesn't. I think that top to bottom the film is unbelievably well cast. Some of the supporting players are truly amazing. Kathryn Hahn, David Harbour, Kathy Bates, Richard Easton, who plays Kathy Bates's husband is a wonderful stage actor, Zoe Kazan, Dylan Baker, who plays the hard drinking buddy at work. That's what's so great about Yates, I'm sure you know people who regale you with their drunken stories so it's all very true.

**TC:** I feel like now, with films like *Revolutionary Road* and TV shows like *Mad Men*, there is a desire to look back at this time period.

JH: Yeah, I wonder why that is? I wonder if it's because it was a time that felt relatively flush, as we just did until about six months ago. It's not quite the generation that made us, but this is the World War II generation. These guys went off and fought in war and had these life-defining experiences which, in many ways, feature almost not at all in both the novel and the film. Thinking back on that you realize that you would have been off fighting Germans at age 20 and everything else would feel like a pale imitation of that experience. I think maybe there's been a feeling that America has become more conformist over the last decade, more prosperous over the last decade, more consumerist over the last decade. Those are all aspects of the 1950s.

**TC:** One of the things that I think is interesting about the film is that its depiction of marriage is never pretty. In fact, it seems to me that the only relatively happy character is John Givings.

JH: I'd say he's pretty miserable.

**TC:** Really?

JH: I think he's got a dark life ahead of him.

**TC:** Of all the couples, though, I'm struggling to come up with a happy one amongst them.

JH: I think that's absolutely right. This is, by the way, Yates's worldview. If you read his books or any of his stories you get it over and over again, and they're terrific. *Easter Parade* is a wonderful novel and makes *Revolutionary Road* look like a happy story by comparison. I think by the end of the book, and the film is a little bit different, you check in with all the people again. And I think, at best, they're co-habiting; surviving. Not happy, but Yates' world view is that they've got it as good as you can expect to get it. Grim, huh?

**TC:** Well, I felt like the ending was happy in an odd way. I almost felt like Frank Wheeler was liberated by April's death.

JH: Well, that scene is different from what's in the book. At least it feels different. In the book he gives the children up for adoption to his older brother, who he doesn't like. People read that scene of him sitting in the playground with them as if he didn't do that, but he could be

visiting his children. We don't know. That's the interesting thing about visual storytelling. The kids are always peripheral, in the background, out of focus. It was a very conscious decision by the filmmaker. And in the script. At the end he is sitting facing them, and that's a difference. A profound difference. I don't know if it's happy, but I think at least there's some sense that he's going to hold onto what he's got.

**TC:** For me, the most striking scene is the fight that April and Frank have toward the end of the film and the subsequent scene where April cooks him breakfast.

JH: It's devastating.

**TC:** It's really heartbreaking.

JH: Well I think Yates said it was the best thing he'd ever written, the breakfast scene. I think there's a lot of truth to that, and I think it's the most honest they ever are with each other.

**TC:** I think that's what I appreciated about the film were the aspects that were very subtle and very true. In any relationship, after a fight there is always a moment of quiet where you try and go back to normalcy even when going back to normalcy is almost impossible, but that's something you don't see in films very often.

JH: One thing I wanted to capture from the book was that shudder of recognition. So much of film is about empathizing with the actor. I think that's something that makes a successful screen actor is somebody who people can identify with. This is a different kind of identification, and one the audience doesn't always want.

Laurice Fox

**TC:** And that's especially true considering that there was a lot made of the re-pairing of Kate Winslet and Leonardo DiCaprio.

JH: Absolutely, I mean you survive the boat and this is what you end up with. [Laughs] I mean look, you only get to make a film that is this dark with a certain number of actors, and Leo and Kate are among that small number. By the way, when I say the list is very short, it's short when it comes to those with ability and are also stars. And I think Leo and Kate are unbelievable in their performances. There is also a certain dialogue that the audience has growing up with these people that I don't think you ignore, and I think Sam Mendes was very conscious of this. It's something you use to your advantage in storytelling.

**TC:** Was that ever a concern of yours during the casting process that people's associations with the two of them would supersede their characters?

JH: No, I always thought it added something.

**TC:** Which came first, writing fiction or screenwriting?

JH: Fiction.

**TC:** And how did you get into screenwriting?

JH: Stumbled. Blindly. Accidentally. I had a friend in the business who encouraged me to give it a go.

**TC:** And are you happy you did?

JH: Yeah, very much.

**TC:** I assume there are different things that you get out of writing for screen that you don't get from writing fiction and vice versa.

JH: The pleasure of writing for screen is that it's collaborative. There's also the fact that it's so alive, from beginning to end through the editing process; the fact that you're in the world, in the sense that it's a business, which is interesting. Writing a book is much more solitary, but the satisfaction of it is that it's a writer's medium and film is not so much a writer's medium. There are more restraints on your imagination writing for film because of the practicality. You're writing a blueprint for something that has to go up on screen. A script that doesn't end up on screen isn't successful. Or it's at least a partial birth.

— Jason Gutierrez, Staff Writer



INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM

The Frisbee team's Joe MacDonald '10 is nothing if not Adonis-like. From his striking stature to his ability to literally leap over his competition — not to mention his affinity for the cultures of ancient Greece and Rome — the man inspires the awe of his peers here at Middlebury. Flanked by teammate Dan Glatt '10 and former roommate and teammate Dave "Whiz Kid" Zhai '10, MacDonald is virtually unstoppable on the Frisbee field and together the three have helped lead the team to success throughout the past three years.

Now — finally — the secrets to MacDonald's academic, athletic and social success will be revealed, as Glatt and Zhai possess knowledge to which only MacDonald's inner circle is privy and between them have access to everything there is to know about the athlete. Which confidante, though, is MacDonald's true right-hand man? While Glatt has extensive experience partaking in all Frisbee team-related shenanigans alongside MacDonald, Zhai may have tapped into reserves of unknown information dur-

The Campus chirps Joe MacDonald '10 for an interview			
	Joe MacDonald	Dan Glatt	David Zhai
What is Joe's favorite meal?	Chicken burrito, no beans.	Taco Bell (.5)	Chicken burrito with no beans (1)
What is Joe's favorite frisbee memory?	Jumping over someone.	Winning the spring break high tide tournament (0)	Jumping over a guy — check out the YouTube video (1)
If Joe were an animal, what would he be?	Without a doubt, the Ultimallama.	Giraffe (0)	Bird (0)
What is Joe's greatest strength?	Long arms and vertical leap.	Translating Latin and Greek (0)	Height and airing ability (1)
What is Joe's greatest weakness?	Either my back-hand or crowds.	Outjumping people (0)	It takes too long for him to fall back to the Earth (0)
To put off doing homework, Joe usually does this...	Rec Sport Disc.	Trolls frisbee blogs (1)	Have a cold beer in a hot shower (0)
What kind of music does Joe like?	Straight gangsta or Grateful Dead.	Bro jam bands (.5)	Grateful Dead and Ice Cube (1)
Final Score:		2	4

ing their sophomore year as roommates. After all, the international student from Shanghai and the St. Louis native forged an indestructible bond through their un-

likely pairing in Hepburn Hall last year. Zhai's burning desire to strive for success in all endeavors did not hurt his chances at winning, either. Still, Glatt's uncanny abil-

ity to master any competition he enters ensured a heightened sense of rivalry among the teammates.

Nevertheless, the attempt to outwit Dave Zhai proved an exercise in futility for Glatt as his opponent nailed enough questions to take home a win. Glatt held his own, but ultimately succumbed to the inexorable mathematical genius that is Mr. Zhai — not without first predicting his own demise, however.

"I think that Dave will get 100 percent on the survey," said Glatt. "Like he does on any other test."

As for Dave Zhai, his wishes were simple. "Emma, you check for my spelling," he said. "Thanks!"

— Emma Gardner, Sports Editor



File Photo/Andrew Ngcow

Men's lacrosse felled by underdog Cardinals

By Jeb Burchenal  
STAFF WRITER

As of Sunday, the buzzword in the sports world has been "bracket." March Madness has returned and everyone is trying to isolate that key 3-14 upset. Division I basketball and Division III lacrosse are clearly quite different, but Wesleyan showed that any upset is possible as the 17th ranked Cardinals won a big, early-season NESCAC match-up against the 4th-ranked Panthers 8-7.

Players reiterated that Middlebury played well, "but couldn't capitalize" as Pete Smith '10 put it. "They didn't outplay us, we just didn't take advantage of our opportunities."

Wesleyan never trailed on their home turf, but the game was never out of hand either. The Cardinals jumped out to a 5-2 lead in the first half after a 13-minute scoreless stalemate to open the game.

The Panther offense came to life in the second half, but costly turnovers with the game on the line proved too much to overcome. With the score 8-7 in favor of the Cardinals, Dave Campbell '09 won a

**MEN'S LACROSSE**  
Saturday, March 14

Middlebury	7
Wesleyan	8

critical draw and Zach Harwood '10 was able to come away with the ball. Matt Ferrer '09 fired over the cage but the Panthers successfully backed up the shot. With only 33 seconds remaining, the Panthers turned the ball over behind the Cardinal goal. This costly turnover was undone as a Wesleyan junior gave the ball back with 15 seconds left. Middlebury got the ball into the hot hand, but Wesleyan's defense stood up to the test and did not allow Ferrer a turn to get

another shot.

Wesleyan managed to fire 35 shots during the course of the game. That may speak to the "bend, don't break"-style defense the Panthers are running, but also to their opponents' relentless attempts to jump on goalie Pete Britt '09. In his second full season as a starter, Britt is proving his mettle. He made 14 saves while giving up eight goals, but Russ Banker '10, on the sideline due to injury, was quick to point out that "Britt kept us in the game."

In a low-scoring contest like this, Banker also praised Mike Quinn '09 as a "pillar out there on defense." Quinn provides the size and strength the Middlebury is lacking in the post-Bambrick and Guay era.

On the offensive side, Ferrer was the star for the Panthers as he buried five goals on the game. Russ Folansbee paced the Cardinals with three first-half goals and added an-

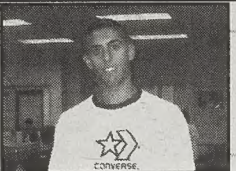
other assist in the second half.

The general sentiment was that everything was on point except for execution. Containing catalyst Mike Stone '09 might have been one thing that led to this lack of offensive production.

Over the years, writers have been trying to identify the "good loss." Many love the idea because of its duality: if they are right, they are geniuses; if they are wrong, nobody remembers.

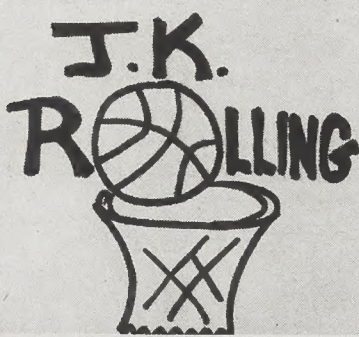
Athletes need to turn every game, practice and workout into a positive experience if they hope to be a champion. They need that fire that manifests as anger after a loss, and the refuse-to-lose mentality when they win. But turning a negative into a positive does not mean the 'good loss' is anything but a myth. This game should leave the Panthers hungry to prove themselves this coming weekend against Conn. College.

Editors' Picks



Questions — March Madness	Jeff Klein	Kevin Carpenter	Emma Gardner	Aylie Baker, Features Editor
What number seed will be the lowest to advance out of the first round?	FOURTEEN The four 14-seeds are a dangerous bunch this year. Look for one of them to pull a Bucknell-like upset.	THIRTEEN Lucky number, baby. I'm liking Mississippi St. with their momentum.	FOURTEEN Again, I'm placing my faith in America and feel confident that the Eagles will beat Villanova.	TEN Maryland Terrapins will snag the win.
In the perennial "upset" matchup, how many number 12 seeds will knock off number fives?	TWO But Arizona over Utah will definitely not be one of them (see J.K. Rolling, p. 22)	ONE I am pulling for the Badgers, but I just can't bring myself to say two.	NONE I just want to be different — to set myself apart. It's the same reason I listen to Death Cab and other alt-rock bands.	THREE I'm always one for the underdog.
Pick a team seeded fifth or worse that will advance to the Sweet 16.	UTAH The Utes will rightfully kick Arizona out of the tournament and then go on to upset an inconsistent Wake Forest team.	WESTERN KENTUCKY Illinois is garbage. Gonzaga is garbage. Western Kentucky is garbage but I smell a rancid upset.	BYU I'm OBSESSED with Big Love, so I'll watch anything involving Mormons.	BOSTON COLLEGE Enough Superfans to sink a ship.
Last season, all four top seeds advanced to the Final Four. How many will advance to the Final Four this year?	TWO I think Pitt and Louisville will get there, but I'm not sold on Carolina or UConn.	THREE Big East. Represent.	THREE I don't know, I'm not seeing a bright future for UCONN after that little episode with Syracuse.	THREE Let's hope UCONN has recovered from 6 OTs.
Who will win the 2009 NCAA men's basketball championship?	PITTSBURGH They have an experienced leader in LeVance Fields to go along with significant frontcourt depth. Our fellow Panthers will make it happen.	UCONN I am biased, but listen. Before you write me off, I think these boys can do it. With a beast like Thabeet and a baller like Price, I'm optimistic.	NORTH CAROLINA This one's for Bill Greven. HOLLAAAAA!	NORTH CAROLINA Hansbrough stayed for a reason, and nothing beats that Carolina blue.
Career Record	57-77 (.425)	17-16 (.515)	32-40 (.444)	8-16 (.333)





by Jeff Klein, Sports Editor

Arizona is in. St. Mary's is out. Are you kidding me?

Great, Arizona extends its longest active streak of NCAA tournament appearances to 25 straight, which undoubtedly pleases all the traditionalists. But is it really too much to ask the selection committee to base its decisions on merit instead of pedigree?

The fact that the Arizona Wildcats were awarded the last at-large bid in this year's NCAA men's basketball tournament, while the St. Mary's Gaels remain on the outside looking in, is absolutely absurd and reflects the committee's blatant bias toward traditional powerhouse conferences at the expense of lesser-publicized mid-majors.

Yes, I understand that each year selecting the field of 65 is an extremely difficult task. Tough decisions have to be made, and inevitably there will be a couple selections that lead to controversy and second-guessing.

But in this case, there is absolutely no rational justification for taking Arizona over St. Mary's.

Let's take a look at the numbers. St. Mary's boasts a 26-6 record, and four of those losses came when the team's best player, Australian sensation Patti Mills, was out with an injury. Arizona, meanwhile, heads into the Big Dance at a pedestrian 19-13, including an underwhelming 9-9 in regular season conference play. Factor in RPI — which takes into account a team's winning percentage, opponent's winning percentage and the winning percentage of those opponents' opponents — and the Gaels also come out on top; they're ranked 48th in that category, while the Wildcats are 62nd. Oh yeah, and Arizona has also lost five of its last six games. St. Mary's, meanwhile, has won seven of its last eight.

Here's where the traditionalists argue that St. Mary's doesn't deserve to be in because they didn't "play anybody." I don't buy that. Sure, the Gaels lack a couple of the caliber wins that Arizona compiled over the season, but you have to look at context when making that argument. It's simply not feasible for a team like St. Mary's to acquire a top-notch resume. Each game they schedule against top teams in major conferences will inevitably be on the road (do you think Duke would ever agree to travel all the way to California to play a game on the Gaels' home court?). Thus, the only way for St. Mary's to get signature wins over major programs entails making multiple trips across the country — a task that, realistically, could be accomplished only in the month or so prior to the beginning of conference play. So at season's end, it hardly seems fair to expect the Gaels to hand the selection committee a resume replete with matchups against the likes of UConn, UNC and other basketball giants on the East Coast.

Even with that in mind, it's not as if the Gaels have been playing cellar dwellers. They beat both Kent State and Providence at neutral sites. They gave perennial WCC powerhouse Gonzaga a serious run for their money on the 'Zags home floor before falling by seven. And last month, they got a signature victory over Utah State, ranked 23rd in the country.

The selection committee screwed up big time here. Instead of trying to determine which team was truly most deserving of an NCAA tournament birth, it made an ostensibly subjective decision that sorely lacks any semblance of validity. Simply put, the committee wrongfully penalized an excellent team in a mid-major conference to cater to an average team in a major conference. You think mid-majors can't compete on the big stage? Try telling that to Davidson — a team that came within a Stephen Curry three from going to the Final Four last year. Somehow I doubt those Wildcats are buying that argument.

Give the little guys a chance.

## Skiing grabs eighth at NCAAs

By Martin Breu  
STAFF WRITER

At the NCAA championships this past week, the western ski schools showed that they are the real forces in national collegiate skiing. Strong finishes from the western universities relegated the first eastern school (UVM) to fifth place. The University of Denver stormed to a prominent overall win on the last day of competition, breaking up what had been essentially a three-way tie with UVM and UNM going into the final nordic race. University of Colorado capitalized on an especially strong final day to clinch second, while the University of New Mexico completed the podium in third.

The Panthers concluded their season with an eighth-place finish in the 2009 NCAA Championships hosted by Bates College.

The championships were scheduled to start on Wednesday, March 11, but rain and high winds forced race organizers to postpone the alpine races by a day. When competition resumed on Thursday, both the alpine and nordic racers hit the slopes. The alpine teams raced an icy giant slalom course where Billy Wagner '09 had a great race, which amounted to the only podium finish of the championships for the Panthers. Bobby Poehling '11 raced well to record a top 20 finish, in 19th place.

Mattie Ford '09 led the Panther women with a 12th-place finish, just a half-second out of the top ten. Nicole Dvorak '11 also had a good race to finish 15th; Natasha Woodworth '09 placed 23rd. David Donald-

son '12 of UVM and Lindsay Cone '12 of SLU took the individual wins on the day.

On the nordic trails, the icy tracks made for a fast 5- and 10-km classic race. Fortunately, the Panthers found the right wax and posted some great results with Simi Hamilton '09 in seventh and Elise Moody-Roberts '12 in 11th. The rest of the nordic team also performed well with Patrick Johnson '11 and Robyn Anderson '09 placing 23rd and 27th, respectively. Classic specialist Juergen Uhl '09 of UVM won the men's race, while Antje Maempel '11 of Denver took the women's title.

Going into the second day of competition, Denver held a tiny lead over the second-place underdog, UVM. The alpine teams were back in action with a tough slalom race that proved troublesome for quite a few athletes. Wagner led the Panthers with his second All-American placing of the championships finishing eighth; this result makes him a five-time All-American in his four years as a Panther.

"One of our strongest team values is perseverance, and Andrew demonstrated that by finishing so well at NCAA's after having a mediocre season," said Alpine coach Stever Bartlett.

Unfortunately, Ford was again just outside of her goal of an All-American finish with 13th place. Dvorak contributed good points to Middlebury with her 22th place finish, while both Poehling and Woodworth crashed but still finished. The individual winners were Gabriel Rivas '12 of Colorado and Malin Hemmingson '10 of UNM.

Capitalizing on strong alpine results, UVM entered the final day of competition with a slim lead over Denver and UNM. The final race of NCAAs was a mass-start free-style race of 15km for women and 20km for men. Hamilton had another great race to lead the Panthers with a ninth place finish and his second All-American placing of the championships. Johnson had a strong race to take 15th place despite having a pole broken by another skier. Moody-Roberts also suffered from a broken pole that relegated her to a bittersweet 15th place finish after skiing most of the race with the lead pack of skiers; Anderson hung tough for 26th place. Vegard Kjoelhamar '11 of Colorado took first place in the men's race, while Maempel of Denver made it two for two winning the women's race.

The final day of racing proved to be too trying for UVM, who slipped from first to fifth on subpar results; Dartmouth was the next eastern school in the rankings with a seventh-place finish.

Middlebury's eighth-place finish put the Panthers in third place for the East, the same position they held in the final college carnival of the year at Colby.

In review, Coach Bartlett emphasized Wagner's performances but said "[that] the rest of the crew put their best foot forward and skied solid performances, but fell short of reaching their true potential."

The '08-'09 ski season was a exciting one for the Panthers with its "share of ups and downs" but both the alpine and nordic teams are looking forward to next season.

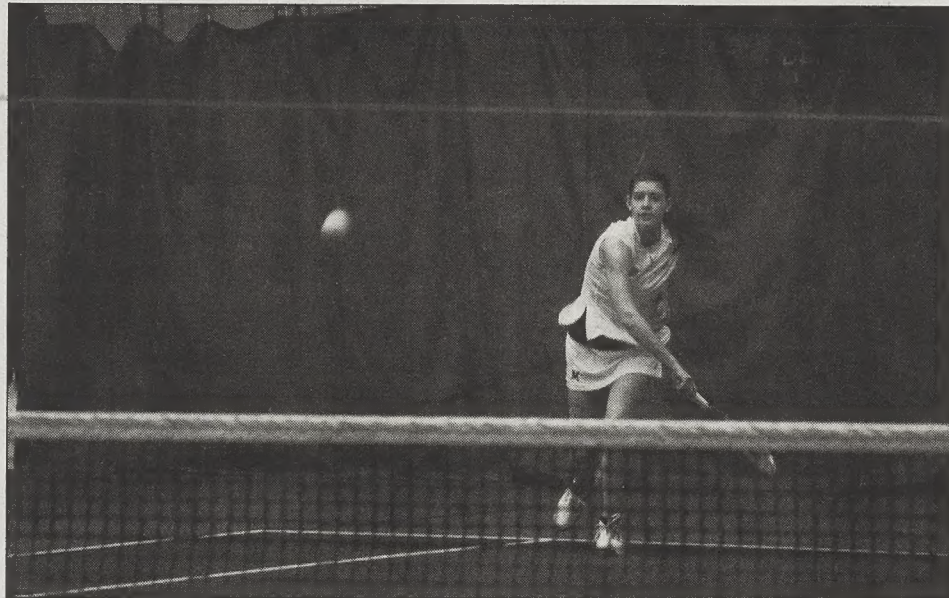
## Women capture straight sets against Camels

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chored by victories from Puccinelli, Hanson and Cunningham. Puccinelli won her first set 6-3, then dropped the only set for Middlebury 3-6 before fighting back to win 7-5 against Bates' Brooke Morse-Karzen. The Burke sisters reunited at the number one doubles spot, winning their match 8-1, followed by wins by Kurien and Stone and a third doubles win for Aiello and Gynn.

Despite some worries about injuries prior to the season, the team pulled off three decisive wins this weekend, dropping only four sets in the three matches they played. "I think this weekend was a clear indication that the work we have done during pre-season has paid off," said Stone. "In a strange way, the matches this weekend were tough because it is difficult to establish a rhythm and easy to fall into the trap of playing your opponent's game. The team showed that we are not only physically faster and stronger, but also mentally tenacious."

The team now awaits next weekend's matches against Berry College and Emory University, which is nationally ranked num-



Tri-captain Clare Burke '09 follows through on a forceful serve in her decisive singles victory.

ber five, to show that their hard work during preseason is paying off. Though almost half the players are first-years, they certainly showed in these matches that they are ready to compete at the collegiate level.

## Heritage '10, Ryan '11 stand out in big win

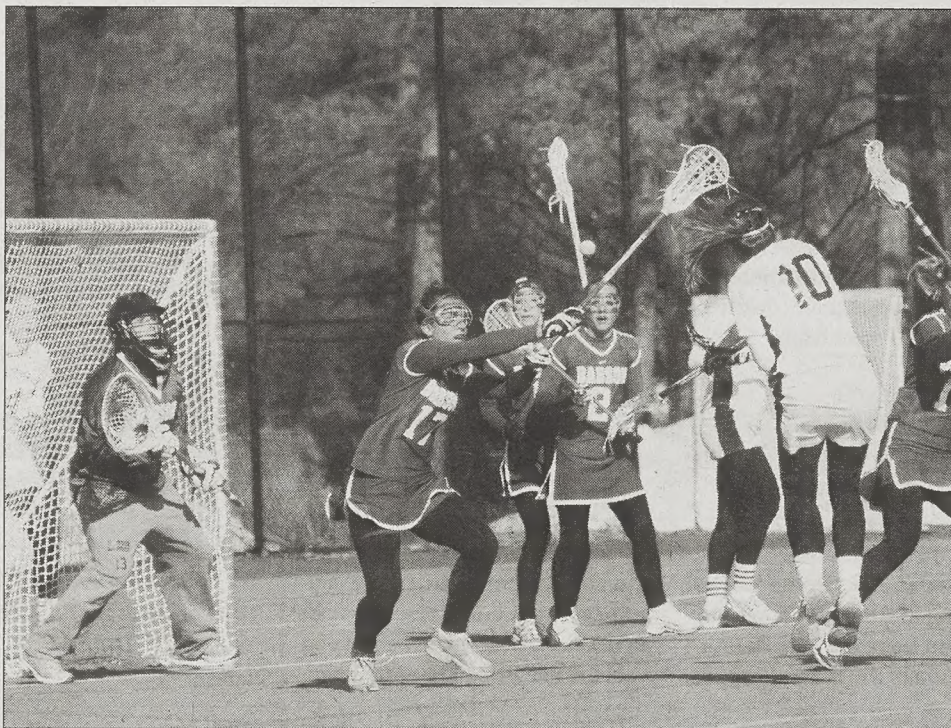
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for some goals against the Panthers, the defensive squad was able to keep them at bay and maintain the lead with the help of the midfielders and attackers.

"The backer 'D' was effective against Babson today," Sparkes added of the collective defensive effort. "However, we still need to work to close double teams, and stay stick to stick on cutters. The high pressure really seems to throw off the attackers and force them to make mistakes, which is exactly the result that we want."

Taylor Brown '11 gave Middlebury an insurance goal with two minutes to go in the game, making the final score 11-8. Although the game got closer in the second half, Middlebury ensured that they came away with the win.

Middlebury will next play when they host Wesleyan on March 17 at 4 p.m.



Chase Delano '11 rifles a shot past a wall of Babson defenders for a goal this past Friday.

Charlie Wemyss-Dunn



Senior rugger to face Israeli competition

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

played for a better team than Middlebury rugby," said Levine. "From day one the seniors were looking out for us and as I've become one of the older members, I have stepped into that role and would bend over backwards to try and help the first-years."

The nature of the sport lends itself to team camaraderie. Because of the complex rules and formations, it is hard to have a pickup game of rugby. For this reason, teams are scattered all over the world in places like Italy, where Levine played for a time.

"Wherever I've played rugby, I've always been with a great bunch of guys," said Levine. "Sometimes it gets a bad rap because people have this image of a sport played by drunken hooligans, but that's really not the case. Though I'm sure that remains true for some teams, we've been trying to combat this stereotype on campus and raise the profile of the sport."

According to Levine, rugby doesn't get many perks because it is not a varsity sport, so "the team spirit has to make up for that." Although they have to wash their own clothes, lack a locker room and don't have their national championship photo displayed, Levine is optimistic about the outlook for the sport here at Middlebury.

"The administration, and Director of Athletics Erin Quinn in particular, has been more and more supportive over the years," he said. "I think our success on the field has also raised our profile on campus. In addition to great coaches, we have amazing depth and promising first-years from all over the world."

Not only is the Middlebury College Rugby Club on an upward trajectory, but Levine's career is also about to reach new heights when he competes in the 18th Maccabiah Games held in Israel from July 12-23. The quadrennial competition brings together Jews from around the world and is the third largest sporting event in the world after the summer and winter Olympics. Some of the top athletes from around the world participate, providing Levine with the opportunity to elevate his game to a higher level.

"For better or worse, Jews are not known for their athletic prowess," Levine admitted. "That said, I will be playing alongside some great rugby players. On the team are a pair of ex-U-23 Eagles [U.S. National Team] and a dozen Super League players — the highest level of American rugby."

How was Levine selected to play on a side with such esteemed company? "While playing in the New England Semifinals last year, I noticed the Star of David on the referee's shorts and I inquired," Levine explained. "After learning that I, too, am Jewish, he invited me to try out for the Maccabiah USA

team. I didn't make it at first, but played on the domestic travel team. We played in tournaments in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. during the last weekend of February and the selectors were apparently pleased with my play. Two days later, I received an e-mail telling me that I would be traveling to Israel this summer as a member of the USA rugby team."

Panthers pick up solid wins to start off the tennis season

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

standout game in the match against Bates. Thomson and Farrah faced off against the number one Bates doubles team, who finished the fall season ranked fourth nationally, and dispatched them with ease, winning 8-1. Thomson said that Olson deserved credit for "[leading] the team with his on court determination" against the top Bates player in his singles match. The Panthers will face Bates again later this season in the NESCAC tournament.

While congratulating their team on some great matches, the captains emphasized that there was still a lot of work to be done before the team is ready for the championships.

Thomson stressed that "we have a very tough road ahead [of us]" this season, and that the team would "have to continue to improve to be successful."

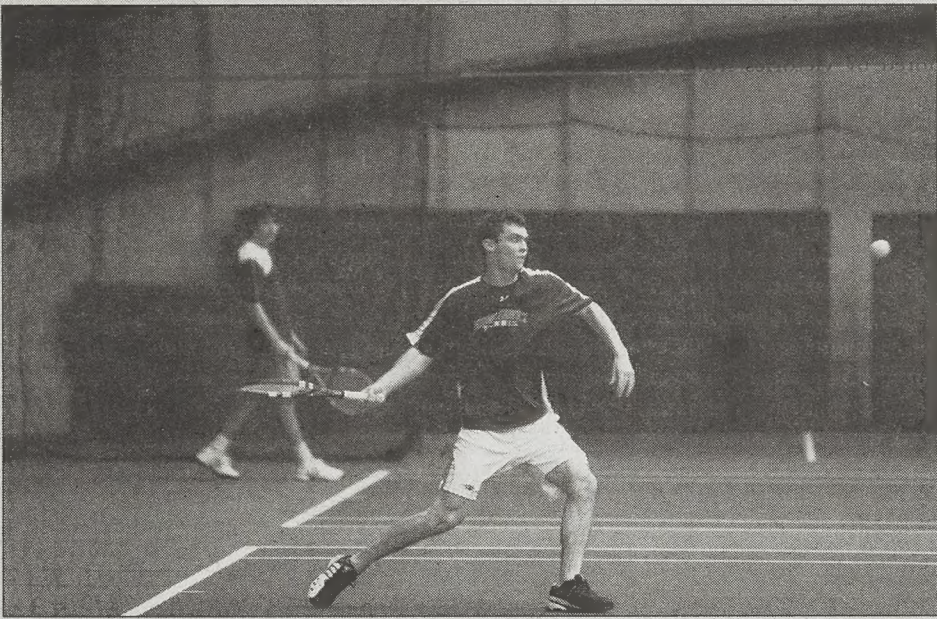
Levine's hard work and dedication have made this great opportunity possible, but it never would have happened had it not been for an injury freshman year. As his career reaches new heights and he makes his debut on the international stage, let the Middlebury community join together in saying, "Break a leg!"



Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor

Derrick Angle '12 delivers a vociferous serve against Bates this past Sunday morning.

The Panthers are looking forward to their spring break trip to California where they will get to play top-ranked competitors like Claremont McKenna (#3) and Santa Cruz (#6).



Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor

A determined Andrew Lee '10 whips a forehand approach shot against the Brandeis Judges.

sportsbriefs

by Dickie Redmond, Staff Writer

Saldanha '11 earns status as All-American runner

Young track stars are galloping away from the pack at Middlebury College. Kaitlynn Saldanha '11 ran the 800 in an impressive 2:20.58, landing her eighth place at the NCAA Indoor Track Championships at the Rose-Hulman Institute in Indiana. As a result of her performance the sophomore dashed her way to an All-American title.

Saldanha broke the Middlebury College 800 record earlier in the year, clocking a 2:13.69 time in the qualifying race as she captured her second school record. She also holds the record for the 600 with a time of 1:38.38.

had an exceptional performance just a week earlier, claiming 17<sup>th</sup> place in her event at the ECAC's at Tuft's University with a time of 2:22.69.

Delano '11 named first NESCAC Player of the Week

Chase Delano '11 led the Panthers to a key victory for their season opener, earning her the honor of being the first NESCAC Player of the Week of the 2009 lacrosse season. The Greenwich, Ct. native netted an impressive six goals and two assists for the Panthers, who breezed by Bates 14-6. Delano helped her team get off to a strong start early in the game, scoring four of Middlebury's five first goals and contributing with three draw controls.

Delano is no stranger to being called NESCAC Player of the Week. The sophomore, who boasts dual varsity status as a member of both the lacrosse and field hockey teams, was named field hockey conference player of the week twice in the 2008 field hockey season, as well as being selected as a Division-III first-team All-American. As a rookie last spring, she helped navigate the lacrosse squad to NESCAC semifinals as well as Division-III NCAA regionals with solid offensive contributions.

With two more years and four more seasons remaining in her Middlebury career after this spring, the future is bright for Delano — and for Middlebury women's lacrosse. As for this spring, the Panthers should be confident in their chances at redeeming last year's NESCAC loss with Delano tearing up the field.

Bloom '11 stands strong in NESCAC championship

Lexi Bloom '11 had a standout performance this past weekend at the NESCAC semifinal and final games. The sophomore goaltender rarely let the puck past her, saving a total of 73 out of 78 shots — a .936 save percentage — and earning her the NESCAC Player of the Week title for the second time this season.

Bloom rejected Colby 21 times on Saturday in the semifinals, providing a significant contribution as the Panthers skated over the Mules 4-2. She went on to turn away 52 Lord Jeff shots the next day — with 21 saves in the second period alone. The sophomore's brilliant defense played a crucial role in propelling the Panthers to a 4-3 OT win, helping them reclaim the 2009 Championship title at Amherst.

The Middlebury women look to continue their successful season this coming weekend in the eighth-annual NCAA Division-III Championship. Middlebury will host the Frozen Four tournament, playing in the semifinal contest on Saturday night against — who else? — the Amherst Lord Jeffs. If her performance against the Jeffs this past weekend is any indicator, Bloom is likely to provide her team with security in the defensive zone as she remains an intimidating presence in goal. This is the second time the Panthers will host the Frozen Four, and the odds look good for Middlebury — in 2004 the women skated to a Championship win on home ice at Kenyon.

### The Middlebury Great Eight

Rank	3/5	Team	Carpenter's Comments
1	1	Women's hockey (19-3-4)	I know how much the 'Great Eight' affects players, so I have to keep the women atop the list as not to hurt their confidence.
2	—	Men's tennis (4-0)	Men's tennis looks pretty sharp on the court. I cannot wait to watch them outside during my lunch at Proctor. Oh wait.
3	2	Women's lacrosse (2-0)	Ryan '11 and Heritage '10 light up the net with three goals apiece.
4	—	Women's tennis (3-0)	Women's tennis starts off strong with three convincing wins.
5	6	Skiing	The team finishes eighth at NAAs. I was initially unimpressed, but then realized it was D-I. Nice.
6	4	Men's lacrosse (1-1)	Cardinals shock Panthers in an upset. Laxers ain't so sweet this game.
7	—	Track & field	Slow week for the team but Kaitlyn Saldanha '11 keeps track & field alive with an impressive performance at NAAs.
8	—	?	The eighth spot is dedicated to whoever gets that perfect NCAA bracket. I bet it will be a girl who picked her favorite mascots.

Courtesy

Though inactive over the weekend, women's hockey retains the top position in this week's edition of the Great Eight.



## Women's lacrosse jumps out to 2-0 start with home win

By Julia Ireland  
STAFF WRITER

The Middlebury women's lacrosse team came away with a win against the Babson Beavers on Friday in Middlebury's first home game of the season. Playing on Kohn Field added extra incentive for the Panthers to come away with a win. The team's 88-game home winning streak ended just last season with a loss to Colby in the NE-SCAC semifinals.

"Walking out on the turf for our first home game every season is the best," said defender Carrie Sparkes '10. It's also exciting to hear the new warm up mix for the year! And it wasn't snowing or raining this year, which is also a plus."

The Panthers jumped out strong from the opening whistle. Although Babson struck first, Middlebury answered with five quick goals to take a 5-1 lead. Attackers Sally Ryan '11 and Elizabeth Garry '12 added two goals apiece in Middlebury's scoring streak, while Chase Delano '11 net-

ted one.

Babson would manage one more goal before the end of the half, but the Panthers cemented their lead by converting three free position shots in the span of one minute. Ryan scored her third of the game with a free position shot and Dana Heritage '10 added the next two.

### WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Friday, March 13

Babson	8
Middlebury	11

"Dana's free position goal in the second half to go up by four goals kept our momentum going," Sparkes said. "However, Babson played very aggressively and certainly wasn't going to give up even though they were down by six goals at half time."

The Beavers came out for the second half with a vengeance. They opened the scoring with three consecutive goals to close Middlebury's lead to 8-5. Babson junior Anna Collins scored her third goal

of the game in the streak.

Middlebury and Babson would go back and forth with goals until the score was 10-8. Heritage also added her third goal of the game to keep Middlebury in the lead.

With 3:25 left in the game, Babson had the chance to bring Middlebury's lead within one goal with a free position shot. However, senior goalie and tri-captain Blair Bowie '09 came through for the Panthers in net, denying the free position shot by the Beavers.

"Blair had a few really key saves in the second half to keep our lead at three goals," Sparkes said of Bowie's effort. Bowie made seven saves in goal to earn the win for the Panthers.

Bowie anchored the Middlebury defense along with senior tri-captain Taryn Petrelli '09. Middlebury's new defensive system proved effective against some tougher competition. Though Babson was able to break through

SEE HERITAGE '10, PAGE 22



Charlie Wemyss-Dunn

Dana Heritage '10 winds up for a shot in last Friday's home opener at Peter Kohn Field. Her three goals helped propel the Panthers to an 11-8 win.

## Tennis trounces the competition in first matches of season

By Martin Breu  
STAFF WRITER

The men's tennis team sent a clear message to their competitors this weekend: 'we're back!' The Panthers showed up in top form with dominating wins over NYU, Brandeis, Connecticut College and Bates.



Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor

Conrad Olson '09 displays a ferocious face as he strikes the ball.

Saturday was a triple-header for the Panthers, as they faced NYU, Brandeis and Connecticut College. The Panthers defeated NYU and Brandeis 9-0, and dropped only a single game to defeat Connecticut College 8-1. Tri-captain Conrad Olson '09 described Saturday's matches as "sort of a warmup" during which the whole team roster of 13 singles players got to play.

On Sunday, the Panthers faced a much tougher opponent in Bates College; Bates was ranked in the Top 25 Division-III schools in the nation going into the weekend. Instead of shying from the challenge, the Panthers rose to the occasion with a perfect victory over the Bobcats at 9-0. This feat was made even more impressive by the fact that the Panthers accomplished the victory without even losing a single set across the nine games.

Olson pointed to the doubles victory of tri-captain Andrew Thomson '10 and talented first-year David Farrah '12 as the

SEE MEN'S, PAGE 23

## Women ace weekend competition

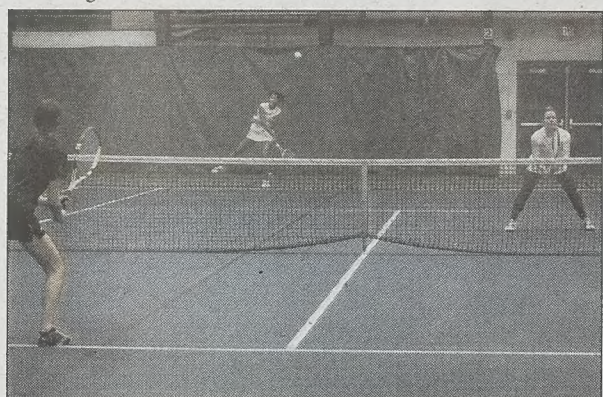
By Alex Lovett-Woodsum  
STAFF WRITER

Middlebury women's tennis kicked off their season this weekend with three home matches against Brandeis College, Bates College and Connecticut College. Though the team experimented with lineup and doubles combinations, the 13th-ranked Panthers romped through all three matches, winning each one by a decisive 9-0 margin.

In the first match against Brandeis, Tori Aiello '12 won a decisive singles match at the number

beating Brandeis' Mackenzie Gallegos 11-9 in a super tiebreaker. Alyssa Puccinelli '12, playing at the number five spot, also won her first set 6-0, lost 5-7 and finally pulled through to win in a super tiebreaker to hold on to the team's perfect match. Tri-captain Clare Burke '09 and Whitney Hanson '11 also contributed singles wins against Brandeis.

The Panthers also showed off their doubles prowess, winning all three matches in decisive victories. At the number one spot, the veteran team of Kurien and Stone



Grace Duggan, Photo Editor

Chandra Kurien '09 fires a vicious serve in the women's tennis team's undefeated home opening weekend.

one spot, beating Brandeis' Rachel Rosman 6-2, 6-1 to set the tone for the match. At the number two spot, Panther tri-captain Chandra Kurien '09 lost a close first set and then bounced back, winning 6-2 and 6-1 in the second and third sets. Another notable win was that of tri-captain Elizabeth Stone '09, who is recovering from a minor injury. Stone won the first set 6-0 and lost the second set 5-7 before

Alex Guynn '12 closed out the match with an 8-2 victory.

Later in the day, the Panthers had a league match against Connecticut College, to whom the team didn't drop a set. In addition to Kurien's win at the number one spot and Hanson's number three victory, four first-years competed and won in singles. Puccinelli defeated Caroline Barone 6-2, 7-5

defeated Brandeis' number one team 8-4. The number two team of sisters Clare and Anna Burke '12 came together to win 8-1, and the number three team of rookies Aiello and

at the two spot, Hilary Cunningham '12 defeated Alicia Canteruccio 6-2, 6-2 at number four, Anna Burke won 6-0, 6-2 at number five and Guynn won 6-3, 6-1 to close out a solid day of singles play. Coach Mike Morgan experimented with doubles teams in the second match, pairing first-years Aiello and Guynn for another victory at number one, putting Clare Burke and Puccinelli together for a win at number two and pairing the young team of Cunningham and Hanson to win at the number three spot.

Sunday's match against Bates allowed the numerous first-years to once again show that they will be significant contributors to the team as the season goes on. Aiello won once again at the number one spot, followed by wins from seniors Kurien and Burke and an-

SEE WOMEN, PAGE 22

## Max Levine '09 set to represent Midd, nation in rugby games

By Ted Silberman  
STAFF WRITER

If it weren't for a poorly timed injury, Max Levine '09 may never have had the chance to represent the United States at the Maccabiah Games this summer. Levine came to Middlebury hoping to make the basketball team, but a broken leg two weeks before tryouts spoiled those plans and opened the door for another sport: rugby.

Growing up, Levine played basketball, baseball and soccer, but rugby had always been in his blood. His father coached rugby at Bates College and recruited his five-year-old son to be ball boy during practices. Despite this early introduction to the sport, playing rugby was unfeasible growing up in Poland Spring, Maine — over an hour away from the nearest rugby club.

After Levine's unfortunate

fracture at Middlebury, his first-year junior counselor Pascal Losambe '07 inspired him to join the team. The encouragement he received from this older student is typical of the rugby team, and the supportive character of this group of men is what sealed his fate as a rugby player.

"I have played team sports since I was three, but I have never

SEE SENIOR, PAGE 23

### this week in sports

**Skiing**  
Flip inside to see how the ski team fared in the NCAA championships, page 22.



**game to watch**  
Women's hockey NCAA Frozen Four vs. Amherst, March 20 at 7 p.m.



**Inside the Locker Room:**  
Joe MacDonald '10  
Who knows the junior prankster better? page 21.